

India N-scare

# US kills sale

WASHINGTON, July 17, (Agencies): The Bush administration has decided to ban the sale to India of a sophisticated missile-testing device that CIA and Pentagon officials fear could advance New Delhi's nuclear weapon capability, the Washington Post reported today.

The \$1.2 million device, Combine Acceleration Vibration Climatic Test System, or CAVCTS, has been the subject of intense debate within the US government for the past two years, the Post reported.

The CIA and Pentagon have argued that CAVCTS technology could further India's ability to develop intermediate-range missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads, the Post said.

However, the Commerce Department supports the sale and the State Department is divided on the issue, the newspaper said.

Indian Defence Minister K.C. Pant came to Washington last month hoping to persuade the Bush administration to reverse its tentative decision to stop the sale.

"It's been disappointed," the State Department official said last week. "It's dead."

An administration official said the US move, which would prevent US firms MB Dynamics and Wyle Labs from selling the equipment, was based on longstanding American policies aimed at thwarting Third World missile proliferation.

The issue was complicated by the disagreement within several US agencies about the CAVCTS system.

In a related development, administration officials said the White House also has opposed reported French-led European offers of advanced American rocket technology to Brazil.

# RA bomb squad held in Paris

PARIS, July 17, (Reuters): A suspected Irish Republican Army (IRA) bomb squad apparently preparing to attack British targets in West Germany has been arrested in France, police said today.

The two men and one woman were seized at a toll on the motorway from Paris to Saarbrücken on Friday as they tried to flee from French agents.

Police said the three, at least two of whom were of British nationality, were carrying false identity papers.

A tip-off from British police who arrested a couple last week in a ferry in Northern Ireland led the French to an address in Paris at which they found detonators, bomb-timers, Balclava masks and boiler-suits.

Police traced the three to a holiday cottage in eastern France and had been watching them when the suspects tried to escape West Germany in a hired car with West German plates.

Police sources said it appeared the IRA was using such hideouts in France as bases from which to launch attacks on British Army of the Rhine units based in the Federal Republic.

IRA guerrilla units have tried out a number of attacks on British military bases in West Germany. One British soldier was killed in an IRA bomb blast in Hanover on July 2.

British intelligence has been on alert for a wave of IRA attacks to mark the 20th anniversary next month of Britain's invasion to despatch troops to northern Ireland to quell sectarian violence.

# Rajiv, Benazir clash

N-arms, Glacier sour summit talks

ISLAMABAD, July 17, (Agencies): The leaders of India and Pakistan clashed today over Pakistan's nuclear programme and the contested Kashmir region, illustrating some of the deep problems left unresolved by the first visit to Pakistan by an Indian leader in almost 30 years.

The disagreements aired by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at a joint news conference added a slightly sour note to the end of Rajiv's two-day stay in Islamabad. He returned to New Delhi after the session.

In a joint statement released hours after Rajiv's departure, the two prime ministers said Indo-Pak consultations at various levels should continue on a regular basis "for devising further measures to improve co-operation in all spheres."

The statement also said Rajiv invited Benazir to India and she accepted, but the date has yet to be set.

The news conference began 45 minutes late because the pair ran over the allotted time for the second round of talks held since Rajiv arrived in Islamabad to advance an effort he and Benazir launched in December to improve bilateral relations.

In their discussions yesterday and today, Rajiv and Benazir considered a broad spectrum of bilateral, regional and international developments and reaffirmed their determination to normalise ties between their governments, officials said.

Relations between the two countries remain badly strained by disputes over Kashmir, their nuclear programmes military buildups, trade, regional and international issues and Rajiv's charges that Pakistan supports the insurgency by Sikh extremists in India's northern frontier state of Punjab.

During the news conference, Rajiv repeated Indian charges that Pakistan's nuclear programme was aimed at developing atomic weapons.

"Pakistan's nuclear programme is controlled by the military and ours is an open programme. Parliament can discuss it, but the Pakistani programme is under the control of the military," he said.

Benazir immediately interjected to deny his allegations.

"Our programme is not under the control of the military. Our nuclear programme is peaceful," she responded.

Both nations have admitted they have the capability to manufacture atomic bombs, but deny numerous reports that they have accumulated sufficient amounts of plutonium and have assembled weapons.

Slachen

Many experts had believed the two leaders would cap Rajiv's visit by finalising an accord to end a more than five-year military confrontation in the desolate Siachen Glacier, located at 17,910 feet (5,460 m) in the far north of the Kashmir region, over which both Indian and Pakistan claim sovereignty.

But the agreement failed to materialise, although the two leaders reiterated that they both wanted to end the conflict over the glacier, which is more a point of prestige than a contest for strategic gains.

"The problem cannot be resolved immediately," Rajiv said.

Benazir added that military officials of both sides would continue a series of negotiations to cement an accord on a disengagement of troops in the "world's highest battlefield," where more casualties have been caused by the altitude and sub-zero temperatures than by fighting.

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Rajiv and Benazir, address a news conference in Islamabad. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Smoking 'gun' heads list

NEW DELHI, July 17, (UPI): Opposition parties today finalised their strategy for what could be the last Parliament session before general elections, saying they would raise a host of issues that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has allegedly failed to resolve.

Opposition leaders released a list of 26 topics on which they said they intended to grill Rajiv and his ruling Congress (I) Party when India's bicameral legislature opens its three-week "monsoon" session tomorrow.

At the top of the list was the continuing controversy over a 1986 \$1.3 billion field gun sale by Sweden's Bofors arms company to India that was allegedly secured with the payment of kickbacks to high-ranking government officials.

The other topics on the list ranged from the domestic economy to the presence of Indian troops in Sri Lanka.

The list indicated the issues that the opposition plans to highlight in its campaign to unseat Rajiv in general elections that must be held before the end of the year.

"The failures have been all around and this is the worst government since independence," declared Lal Krishnan Advani, the president of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party and a member of the upper house, or Rajya Sabha.

"This session will be the last parliament session for Rajiv Gandhi's government," he said, explaining that he believed the elections would be called before the legislature has a chance to hold in its regular winter meeting in November.

The opposition strategy conclave was attended by the leaders of almost all the opposition parties in Parliament.

Newspapers have predicted a stormy session, with opposition and Congress (I) Party members clashing over India's foreign policy, the Bofors scandal, mounting overseas debts, the partisan use of the government-owned television and radio and the continued violence in Punjab state.

"India's deteriorating relations with its neighbours will be highlighted in the house," said Madhava Reddy, the leader of the Telugu Desam Party in the lower house, or Lok Sabha. He was referring to Gandhi's refusal to accede to a Sri Lankan demand for an Indian troops withdrawal from the island's Tamil-dominated northeast by July 29 and a trade embargo imposed on landlocked Nepal.

Rajiv led the Congress (I) Party to record majorities in both houses of Parliament when he was elected in December 1984.

# China cracks down on Muslim unrest

BEIJING, July 17, (Reuters): A Chinese court sentenced 10 men to prison terms ranging from a year to life for their part in a riot over a book considered insulting to Islam, a report reaching Beijing today said.

The men were accused of crimes including robbery, sabotage and defacing property after crowds attacked Communist Party and government offices in Urumqi, capital of west China's Xinjiang region, on May 19, a radio report monitored by the BBC said.

Muslims demonstrated in Beijing and other Chinese cities in May against a book called "Sexual Customs" which they said insulted Islam.

Authorities banned the book after the protests, which were overshadowed by the country's pro-democracy demonstrations.

but said "evildoers" in Urumqi had used it as a pretext to stage a "counter-revolution riot."

The local radio report said Ma Youtu and others had plotted and organised the Urumqi unrest. Ma was sentenced to life imprisonment and nine others to terms of between one and 15 years for offences during the riot.

The unrest triggered by the book, which dwelt on the supposed sexual behaviour of China's ethnic minorities, has become one of the many "mistakes" now officially blamed on China's sacked Communist party chief Zhao Ziyang.

At a meeting of the standing committee of the National People's Congress this month, legislator Mamtuo Kurban from Xinjiang said "Sexual Customs" was the product of "bourgeois liberalisation."

# Probe 'on injections'

ANKARA, July 17, (Reuters): Turkey said today that World Health Organisation (WHO) team would investigate injections given to some ethnic Turks in Bulgaria before they joined a flood of refugees across the border.

The WHO team will investigate the injections of unknown nature, whether the Turkish minority in Bulgaria are being refused health services and the consequences of psychological pressures of the deportations on these people," Health Minister Hali Sivgin told reporters.

Turkey had asked the UN agency to investigate claims by some refugees that they were given injections before leaving Bulgaria which they fear may cause infertility or death.

No deaths or sickness attributable to the injections have been reported among the 157,000 ethnic Turks to have crossed into Turkey since mid-May.

Turkish health officials said the team took blood samples from several refugees in Ankara who claimed they had received injections.

# Saddam salvo on Syria, Iran

Iraq expansionist, says Iran

NICOSIA, July 17, (Agencies): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein blamed Syria for the Lebanon bloodshed and questioned Iran's sincerity in stalled peace talks in a speech today marking the 21st anniversary of the rise of the Baath Arab Socialist Party to power.

In his 22-page address, broadcast live by the state radio and television, he expressed "sincere support" for an Arab League committee trying, so far unsuccessfully, to mediate an end to the 14-year-old crisis in Lebanon.

He praised the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the recent formation of a four-nation economic alliance, the Arab Co-operation Council, comprising Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and North Yemen.

# 'Kill Arafat,' says Sharon

PLO may drop 'peace'

KATZRIN, Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, July 17, (AP): Industry Minister Ariel Sharon called on the government today to "eliminate" PLO chief Yasser Arafat as a necessary step toward reviving the Middle East peace process.

Speaking to reporters in this small Israeli town on a strategic plateau captured from Syria, Sharon renewed his demands for strong steps to end the 19-month Palestinian uprising which has claimed the lives of 565 Palestinian and 36 Israelis.

"I think we are in a war, it's a different kind of war but a war," Sharon said. "The most important thing is to restore law and order, to bring an end to terror and violence called the intifada (Arabic for uprising)."

Sharon, a leading figure in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc, said the government also must "eliminate the heads of the terrorist organisations, first of all, Arafat."

Unless this done, he said, "I do not see any real possibility of arriving at peace or starting a peace process."

"We have to stop using slogans, dish out promises and handing out tranquillisers. The time has come to deal with terror and violence," Sharon said.

It was not Sharon's first threat against Arafat. On Jan 28 he said on Israeli radio "there will be no peace as long as Arafat lives."

Sharon's tour of the Golan, annexed after its capture from Syria in 1967, came as the Israeli

cabinet faced its toughest political crisis, which Sharon triggered by proposing a list of hard-line amendments to the government's peace initiative.

Sharon's latest remarks also stirred anger among Labour leaders. Mordechai Gur, a Labour minister-without-portfolio and former Army Chief of Staff, accused Sharon of "extraordinary audacity."

He noted that Sharon did not kill Arafat when Israeli forces were at the edges of Beirut in 1982. "Sharon did not harm Arafat, did not eliminate terrorism, did not solve the Palestinian problem," Gur said.

A senior Palestinian official said the PLO may call off its peace initiative if the superpowers adopted the Israeli Likud party's plan for settling the Palestinian problem, the UAE newspaper Al Itihad reported today.

"If the international community, especially the superpowers approved our political policy calling for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, the establishment of a Palestinian independent state and the right to self-determination, we shall proceed," said Khaled Al Hassan.

"But if we find that the American and Soviet policies agreed to adopt the Israeli stand, making our policy an expression of nothing, of course we would reconsider our policy," he told the state-run daily.

Hassan said the current PLO stand is "based on strategy and not a tactic."

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# Israel won't block deliveries Missiles for Aoun

TEL AVIV, July 17, (Reuters): Israel will not intervene to prevent Iraq delivering short-range missiles to Christian-led forces fighting Syrian troops in Lebanon, the commander of the Israeli Air Force said today.

Major-General Avihu Bin-Nun said he was confident that none of the surface-to-surface Frog-7 missiles which press reports say Baghdad is supplying had yet arrived in Lebanon, despite weeks of rumours.

"I believe we would have known about it if they had arrived," he told a news conference marking Israel's Air Force Day.

He said it was up to Syria to stop deliveries of Frog-7, which could lob a high-explosive warhead into Damascus from the edge of Lebanon's Christian enclave.

Bin-Nun said Israel feared

that the Soviet-built missiles, which have a range of 70 km (43 miles), could fall into the hands of hostile groups in Lebanon.

But he said there was no immediate concern because Major-General Michel Aoun, the Christian head of one of two rival governments in Lebanon, would only use the missiles against Israel's traditional foe, Syria.

Bin-Nun said the missiles might not remain under the control of the Christian forces, who have been long-standing Israeli allies.

"Today they might be with the government, Aoun," he said. "Tomorrow they might be transferred to the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation), the Shi'ites, the Druze or anyone else."

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# Bomb explodes in uninhabited area in Makkah, causes no casualties or damage

RIYADH, July 17, (Agencies): A bomb exploded in Makkah today and sources said the blast, the third in Islam's holiest city in one week, caused no casualties or damage.

An unnamed official security source, in a statement carried by the official Riyadh Radio, said a blast occurred at 1 am (2200 GMT Sunday) in an uninhabited area on Mount Qubais.

The Saudi Press Agency quoted a Saudi Interior Ministry security source as saying the "limited explosion" was on a "piece of land" near the Grand Mosque.

The agency, said Saudi authorities had "immediately adopted the necessary measures to investigate the incident."

The official report did not say what caused the blast, but other sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was a bomb.

They said it was a crude device, similar to the two that exploded last Monday, one on a road leading to the Grand Mosque and another on an overpass. Such bombs, they added, are designed to cause loud bangs but little damage.

The two explosions last week killed a Pakistani

pilgrim and wounded 16 other worshippers at the height of the pilgrimage season. They went off early in the night, while pilgrims still were awake, offering prayers or visiting the Kaaba, the holy shrine within the Grand Mosque.

Some two million Muslims gathered in Makkah for this year's pilgrimage, which culminated on Thursday with Eid Al Adha, or feast of sacrifice.

On Monday, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims still were in the holy city awaiting return flights home.

Saudi authorities made no accusations after last

week's explosions, but there has been speculation Iran was behind them.

No arrests have been made, but sources say several people have been questioned.

Iran boycotted this year's haj, or pilgrimage, to protest a quota system imposed by the Saudis to curb the number of pilgrims to Makkah and Medina.

It was the second year that Iran has stayed away from haj as the Saudis insisted on limiting its quota to 45,000 pilgrims or less than one-third the contingent it had sent in previous years.

Turning to domestic issues, the Iraqi leader praised the flourishing military industries and reconstruction projects launched in war-ravaged cities after a ceasefire last year halted eight years of war with Iran. He cited in particular projects completed in the southern cities of Basra and Fao.

"The most painful of all Arab wounds is the present situation in Lebanon," Saddam said. "It is impermissible to keep silent and tap those responsible for this tragedy on the shoulder."

He said: "It is crystal clear that the Syrian regime is the main party responsible for the destruction of Lebanon and the dispersion of its people."

"It still insists, through blackmail and manoeuvring, on pursuing its practices supported by its Iranian allies," Saddam added.

"Iraq remains committed to saving Lebanon of this (Syrian) tyranny and oppression," Saddam said.

He vowed support for the tripartite Arab League committee on Lebanon comprising King Hassan II of Morocco, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Algerian President Saddam Hussein.

The committee so far has failed to arrange a ceasefire before moving on to find a political settlement in Lebanon.

On the UN-sponsored peace talks with Iran, launched five days after the ceasefire, Saddam said he refuses to drag on "in this no-war, no-peace situation."

"Iran is trying to utilise this situation to blackmail the region and threaten its security and stability," he said.

"The lust for expansion and hegemony still dominates the minds of the Iranian rulers... the policy they have used in the peace talks makes us suspicious of their intentions," Saddam said.

He complained: "It's been nearly a year and they are still refusing to end the plight of war prisoners." That was reference to Iran's refusal to release the prisoners of war except as part of an overall settlement of the conflict.

Saddam praised the Palestinian uprising, saying it underscored the Arabs' rejection of "plots designed to lead our people to despair."

Iran today accused its Gulf war foe of holding up peace talks with "expansionist dreams."

"No positive step has been taken towards peace between Iran and Iraq in the nearly a year which has passed since the establishment of a ceasefire," said an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement read on Tehran Radio.

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# Iran in talks with Kurds

ATHENS, July 17, (UPI): Iran said today it was holding discussions for a peaceful end to the Kurdish rebellion in its north-western region when a leading Kurdish politician was killed in Vienna last week.

Tehran radio, quoting a statement issued by the Iranian Embassy in Vienna, said "elements who considered the results of these discussions might be against their illicit interests" were responsible for the murder.

The radio, monitored in Athens, was referring to the murder in Vienna last week of Abdur Rahman Qasemlou, 59, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran, along with a close aide, Abdullah Ghaderi-Azar, 37, the KDPI representative in Europe.

The third Kurd killed in the attack was identified as Dr Fazel Rasoul.

# US celebrates Moon landing

## Apollo 11 crewmates mark 20th anniversary

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, July 17, (AP): The first men from Earth to travel to another celestial body relived yesterday that moment 20 years ago when they blasted off for the Moon.

"Five... four... three... two... one... zero... we have liftoff," said the recorded voice of a launch commentator as Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins listened attentively to a tape of the final minutes of their countdown to launch.

The tape reached "liftoff" at 9:32 am,

the precise time the three began their mission on July 16, 1969.

Four days later Armstrong and Aldrin cast off from the mother ship Columbia and landed on the Moon's sea of tranquility in the lunar module Eagle. After 22 hours on the surface, during which much of the world followed their every move, they launched Eagle and rejoined Collins in Columbia for the journey home.

"We can on this launch anniversary look back on those very special times and allow ourselves just a touch of pride, a

touch of satisfaction, that we were participants and witnesses to the birth of a new human era," Armstrong, Apollo 11 commander and the first man to step on the Moon, told about 6,000 flag-waving space workers and their families.

Hundreds of engineers and technicians who helped launch Apollo 11 were in the audience, and Armstrong recognised them when he equated the Moon trip to a "summer vacation... going to new places, seeing new sights, taking lots of pictures."

Aldrin said that the US Freedom Space

Station, to be assembled in orbit in the mid-1990s, should serve as a stepping stone to a manned lunar base and human flights to Mars.

He called the commitment made 28 years ago by President John F. Kennedy to the Moon landing goal "a starter's gun for our pioneering giant leap for mankind."

He called on citizens "to form a consensus, and perhaps on the 30th anniversary of Kennedy's speech... the world can know where we are going and when we will venture out again."



Mike Collins (centre) grabs the arms of his chair in a mock liftoff as a tape of the Apollo 11 launch to the moon was played. At right is Armstrong and left is Buzz Aldrin. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Official talks

MOSCOW, July 17, (KUNA): Soviet-Philippine talks began here today between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul Manglapus.

The Soviet news agency, Tass, did not disclose further information on the contents of the talks but said that the Filipino official arrived here yesterday on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet government.

A Soviet official spokesman said last week that Manglapus's visit will result in signing an agreement on technical and cultural co-operation between Moscow and Manila.

### Boat capsizes

DHAKA, July 17, (Reuters): At least 60 people have been reported missing since a boat capsized in the Jamuna river, north of Bangladesh's capital Dhaka, newspapers said today.

They said the boat overturned and sank in the river after being caught in a whirlpool. Most passengers were swept away by strong currents.

Police said today they were investigating the delayed report about the July 11 accident but had yet to confirm it.

### AIDS test

SINGAPORE, July 17, (KUNA): The Singapore government is considering AIDS tests for foreign workers who intend to work here.

"We are working on it (the proposal) along with other ministries like Home Affairs," a Health Ministry spokesman said today.

Several countries, including China, Austria, West Germany and Belgium, require long-term foreign stayers to be tested for AIDS.

India requires AIDS tests for foreigners who stay in the country for more than six months.

### Undersea volcano

TOKYO, July 17, (UPI): Japan's coast guard continued its offshore surveillance southwest of Tokyo today, five days after an undersea volcano shot plumes of steam and smoke into the air.

Scientists also said a careful watch must be maintained to detect more eruptions.

Ten patrol boats from the Maritime Safety Agency, Japan's coast guard, joined by three aircraft, checked for changes in water colour and bubbles on the sea surface caused by an undersea volcano formed during Thursday's eruptions. Coast guard spokesman Kiyoshi Harada said.

### Bodies recovered

TOKYO, July 17, (UPI): Rescuers digging through thousands of tonnes of rain-soaked mud and rocks recovered five more bodies today, bringing to 15 the death toll from a landslide which crushed an excursion bus on a highway along the Japan Sea coast yesterday, police said.

Police said a mountain slope about 230 feet (70 m) high and 66 feet (20 m) wide broke loose and crushed a minibus carrying 15 people and two parked cars on a highway near Cape Muro, about 100 miles (160 km) northwest of Tokyo yesterday afternoon.

Police said the bodies of all 15 people aboard the bus, including the driver and 14 self-employed workers, have now been recovered.

### HUD investigation

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): The US House this week plans to lay out next year's budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development even as it presses ahead with an investigation into alleged corruption at the agency.

The Senate, meanwhile, is looking overseas with work on the State Department bill.

The House sub-committee investigating the scandal in the federal housing programme was to hear from Carla Hills, a former HUD chief who is now the US trade representative.

### 38 killed in floods

NEW DELHI, July 17, (Reuters): At least 38 people have died in heavy rains and floods in central India, news agency reports said today.

Most victims of the floods, which began on Saturday in Andhra Pradesh state, were living along river banks, the United News of India said. About 2,000 people were evacuated today when the Brahmaputra river overflowed its banks, the Press Trust of India reported.

### US offers compensation

WASHINGTON, July 17, (Reuters): The United States said today it has offered \$100,000 to \$250,000 compensation for each of the 290 passengers and crew killed when the US warship Vincennes shot down an Iranian jetliner in the Gulf last year.

State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said he expected five of the governments whose nationals were killed in the accident to accept the offer but payments to relatives of 250 Iranian victims would be delayed until an appropriate intermediary was found to distribute the money.

## Uno's party appears in disarray

TOKYO, July 17, (UPI): Japan's Liberal Democratic Party appeared in disarray today with some members calling for Prime Minister Souda to resign if the party loses its majority in parliamentary elections early next week, news reports said.

Uno, who assumed the premiership on June 2 only to be embroiled in a sex scandal involving alleged relationship with geishas, told reporters in Paris he planned to stay on as prime minister until the party's annual elections in October.

Uno made the comments following the economic summit of seven Western industrialised nations.

The government-supported Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) joined other media today in predicting that the conservative ruling party would lose its majority in parliament's upper house for the first time since its founding in 1955 in national elections on Sunday.

It had been widely speculated that Uno, viewed as a largely powerless caretaker, would be forced to resign immediately after the expected election defeat, to assume responsibility for the nation's growing disenchantment in the ruling party.

The governing LDP, the target of public anger over a bribery scandal and a per cent national sales tax rammed through parliament last year, "it is demands an overwhelming majority in the powerful lower house of parliament, which determines party control of the government along with the premiership.

News reports today said a growing number of both LDP senior and junior members are joining a chorus for Uno's resignation.

## China blasts world critics

### Arrests to continue

BEIJING, July 17, (Agencies): China today denounced the seven leading industrialised nations for their "gross interference" in calling on Chinese authorities to stop their crack-down on participants in pro-democracy protests.

The sharp response mirrored earlier Chinese reaction to sanctions imposed by some of the seven nations, including the United States and France, after the Chinese Army crushed the pro-democracy movement June 3-4.

The government made it clear it planned to continue rounding up anyone involved in the seven weeks of protests for freedom, democratic reform and cleaner government. A report in the Communist Party newspaper, the People's Daily, said those who surrender would get lenient treatment.

"All hesitation is useless," it said. "Surrendering, thoroughly confessing (and) doing meritorious work... is the only way out for all criminals."

The Foreign Ministry expressed "great regret" over the Group of Seven statement, which it said "violates the most basic criterion of diplomatic relations."

"China absolutely cannot accept this," said the statement, read on the national television news.

The newspaper also said political activists plotted the events that forced the military crackdown in Beijing and that for at least one of them bloodshed was the goal.

"As early as 1986 the well-

known Fang Lizhi was crying out for people to 'take action' and 'poke' the government and Communist Party," the newspaper said.

"In 1987 and 1988 he was frequently calling for people to use extreme measures to seize democracy."

Fang, China's most prominent dissident, has taken refuge in the US embassy to avoid a crackdown that has led to the arrest of more than 2,500 people officially and many more according to Chinese sources and Western diplomats.

The newspaper also quoted student leader Chai Ling—who is on a list of 21 most wanted activists—as telling American reporters: "Many of my classmates ask me what is the next step. I cannot tell them but the next step is bloodshed."

The 53-year-old astrophysicist has been called "the scum of Chinese intellectuals" by Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin.

The People's Daily also published a commentary in its overseas edition attacking Fang Lizhi's wife, Li Shuxian, accusing her of opposing the party and socialism.

A Western diplomat commented: "They (the authorities) have been developing this theme of how this was plotted by a small group."

"They've had to explain why they sent the People's Liberation Army in. This is the next logical stage—those behind it were plotting counter-revolution all along so they must have wanted blood."



Suh Kyung-Won

## Korean charged as spy

SEOUL, South Korea, July 17, (AP): In one of the most serious cases in South Korean history, a national lawmaker was charged with espionage today for allegedly receiving \$120,000 over a three-year period to work for Communist North Korea.

The Agency for National Security Planning said Suh Kyung-Won, 52, was turned over today to prosecutors, who have 30 days to bring an indictment needed for trial. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

An aide of Suh, Pang Yang-Hyun, who also was charged with being a middleman in Suh's alleged transactions with the North.

In a televised news conference, the Intelligence Agency said Suh received a total of \$120,000 on 14 occasions between April 1985, when he was allegedly recruited by North Korean agents, and December 1988.

"A shocking and surprising case," said Ahn Ung-Mo, deputy director of the security agency, who presided over the news conference.

Suh, a farmer and dissident who became a member of the National Assembly for the largest opposition party, the Party for Peace and Democracy, turned himself in June 25 after reportedly first telling party leaders that he had travelled secretly to the North.

He was formally arrested June 28 on charges of violating national security laws for making an unauthorised visit to the North in August 1988 to talk with North Korean leaders about unification of the peninsula.

The South Korean government forbids citizens from making unauthorised trips to the North and maintains that dialogue on unification must be conducted through official channels.

Intelligence sources said they were concerned that Suh and the North both had kept his trip secret for 10 months and that Suh had made other overseas trips.

### Typhoon Gordon

HONG KONG, July 17, (AP): Typhoon Gordon, packing winds as high as 183 kilometres (115 miles) per hour, rolled toward Hong Kong today, after killing at least 12 people and leaving thousands homeless in the Philippines.

The Army was called in to move about 11,000 Vietnamese boat people from tent camps to emergency accommodations. Thousands of workers were allowed to leave work early and filled subways and buses as they attempted to get home to prepare for the storm.

## India blames Sri Lanka

### Impasse on troop pullout

NEW DELHI, India, July 17, (AP): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today blamed the impasse over the withdrawal of Indian peace keeping troops in Sri Lanka on the Colombo government's refusal to negotiate the issue.

Rajiv told reporters at New Delhi's International Airport he had suggested to Sri Lankan President Ransinghe Premadasa that the two countries hold discussions to draft a timetable for the pullout.

"He has refused to talk," United News of India News Agency quoted Rajiv as saying. "The whole way that it has been handled by the Sri Lankan government, I think, is very sloppy. It is not the way relations between the two countries should be handled," he said.

Asked about Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Ranjane Wijeratne's threat to expel Indian troops if they were not withdrawn by the end of the month, Gandhi said: "I hope good sense prevails."

Sri Lankan President Ransinghe Premadasa has told the Indian peace keeping force, sent to Sri Lanka two years ago to help end a Tamil separatist rebellion, to leave by the end of July.

Rajiv said that it was because of Indian Peace Keeping Forces (IPKF) that Sri Lanka was isolated today.

"But for the presence of IPKF, Sri Lanka would have disintegrated long ago," Rajiv told newsmen.

He squarely blamed the Sri Lankan government for the current stalemate over IPKF withdrawal and asserted that Colombo can not "backtrack from its contractual obligation" under Indo-Sri Lankan accord.

The prime minister made his remarks on his return from a six-day tour of France, the Soviet Union and Pakistan.

Gandhi held several rounds of discussion with Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto during his stay in Islamabad. His visit to Islamabad was described as a major step toward normalising relations between the two neighbouring nations.

Both Gandhi and Bhutto expressed satisfaction over the result of their talks, which were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The Indian and Pakistani premiers reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining the momentum of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) activities in various fields.

On his talks with Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, Rajiv said both countries were looking for a solution to the disputed Siachen region.

Gandhi said some progress had been made on the question of the so-called Pakistan help to "terrorists" in Punjab. But the flow from across the border has not stopped, he added.

### 3 held for bombing

RANGOON, July 17, (AP): Security forces have arrested three members of the main opposition party for a recent bombing at a government oil refinery that killed three people, the chief of military intelligence said today.

Authorities said three people were killed and two others wounded when a box in a package exploded at the Syrian refinery on the northern bank of the Rangoon River on July 7.

Three National League for Democracy youths have admitted their responsibility for the blast at Syrian, intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Khin Nyunt told a news conference.

Khin Nyunt said he was convinced the Syrian bombing was connected to a bomb explosion at Rangoon's city hall on July 10.



Two Pakistani soldiers aim a sub-machine gun through the opening of a sand-bagged bunker at Karachi University today. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Rajiv, Benazir clash

(Continued from Page 1)

The dispute is rooted in the demarcation of the ceasefire line in Kashmir as laid out by the Simla agreement that ended the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war. The pact failed to extend the "line of actual control" as far as the glacier.

Benazir yesterday offered arms control talks to Rajiv, who called for an end to fear between their traditionally rival countries.

Benazir repeated Pakistan's offer of an arrangement to keep South Asia free of nuclear weapons and said: "We would also like to prevent an arms race in our region, and would like to see arms control take place."

During the news conference, Benazir, however, reiterated Pakistan's contention that a plebiscite should be held in Kashmir to determine to which country residents wished to belong.

But Rajiv said that in India's view, a plebiscite was "totally out," arguing that the two sides

were bound by the Simla agreement to resolve the territorial dispute through negotiations.

Answering a range of other questions, Benazir denied anew that Pakistan was arming and training Sikh extremists fighting in India's Punjab state and Rajiv reiterated his contention that India was "not acting like a bully" in south Asia.

He defended an Indian trade embargo on Nepal that was prompted by a dispute over renewing agreements on commerce and transit and the presence of India troops in northeastern Sri Lanka, where they were deployed in 1987 to enforce a plan aimed at ending a war by separatists of the ethnic Tamil minority.

"Today, the only part of Sri Lanka where law and order prevails is where the Indian peace-keeping force is," he contended.

Sri Lanka has demanded that the Indian contingent withdraw by July 31.

## KAL disaster trial begins

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): Families of passengers killed when an off-course Korean Air Lines jet was shot down in 1983 by a Soviet fighter plane are seeking to prove in court that the airline's crew engaged in willful misconduct.

A civil jury trial begins today before US district court Judge Aubrey Robinson in connection with the shooting down of KAL Flight 007, in which all 269 passengers were killed.

The plaintiffs contend that willful misconduct by the jet's crew makes the airline liable for damages in excess of the \$75,000 per-passenger limit normally permitted under international agreement.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation concluded Flight 007 had been off course for nearly 5 1/2 hours before it was destroyed by the Soviets for intruding into their airspace.

The US government said the plane was lost due to a navigational mistake and that its pilot did not know he was over Soviet territory. The Soviet Union contends the plane intentionally flew its course because it was on a spying mission to photograph sensitive military installations.

The jumbo jet was flying from New York to Seoul, South Korea, when a Soviet military jet tracking the Boeing 747 attacked it over Sakhalin island, a site of Soviet military installations.

### Bingo Day 4

37 11 14 44

## 'Miracle' pilot embarrassed by intense scrutiny

HOLLYWOOD, Florida, July 17, (AP): One of Thomas Root's first questions for his relatives was whether his 800-mile (1,280-kilometre) flight while unconscious, crash and rescue at sea had made the news.

Indeed, it was all over the news, but now the news is all over the fast-track lifestyle of a Washington lawyer whose legal and financial affairs are under minute scrutiny.

"I'm shocked. I can't understand why this story has blown up, beyond the admittedly unusual circumstances, to end up being a front-page story like this," Root said in an interview published in today's

editions of the Washington Post.

Root, interviewed at his bedside at Hollywood's Memorial Hospital, where he was in stable condition, asserted again that he had not attempted to commit suicide, despite an unexplained gunshot wound to the abdomen that he apparently suffered during the flight.

"I don't think I have the ability, nerve or stupidity to take another life—mine or anyone else's," Root told the newspaper.

He said he did not know what had caused him to pass out during the flight Thursday, but confirmed federal investigators' account of his losing oxygen,

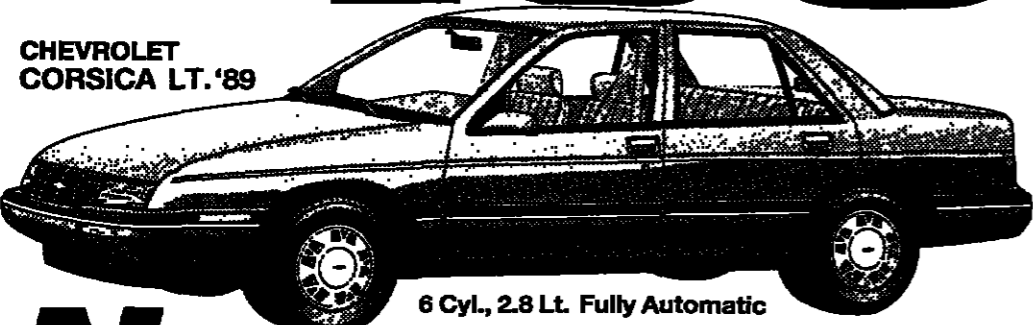
possibly from carbon monoxide leaking into the cabin.

Root talked Saturday with a National Transportation Safety Board air safety investigator and an FBI agent. NTSB investigator Andrew Alston said he didn't have reason to dispute Root's version of events, but that investigators in several places will try to determine whether evidence matches Root's story.

Relatives said Root is a long-time gun collector and moved the weapons from his home to the locker to keep them away from their small children.

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# Designer drug 'ecstasy' destroys nerve cells, scientists say

NEW YORK, July 17, (UPI): Preliminary results from the first human study of the effects of MDMA, popularity known as "ecstasy," show evidence the drug causes neurological damage but no signs of resulting behavioural problems, researchers reported recently.

The findings could lead to important clues about causes of depression and impulsive behaviour, said neurologist

George Ricaurte, MD, of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in Baltimore.

Ricaurte led a research team that examined 38 volunteers who had used MDMA, a so-called "designer" drug hybrid of the hallucinogen mescaline and the stimulant amphetamine that is having a resurgence of popularity among college-age youth.

Preliminary results of the first

human study of MDMA were presented Thursday at the end of a Manhattan conference on the neuropharmacology of serotonin, sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences.

Earlier published studies using monkeys and rodents have showed MDMA destroys certain nerve cells in the brain that produce serotonin, which is thought to help regulate mood, pain, perception, sleep, appetite, aggression

and sexual activity.

However, because not all chemicals affect humans the same way they affect animals, scientists did not know whether humans who used MDMA were at risk from toxic effects.

Each subject in Ricaurte's study showed a 25 per cent to 30 per cent reduction in 3-hydroxyindoleacetic acid (5-HIAA) in cerebral spinal fluid — indicating a reduction in brain levels

of serotonin, which metabolizes into 5-HIAA — compared to 24 "control" subjects who did not use the drug.

The non-control volunteers ranged from 22 years to 70 years of age (the mean age was 37) and had a history of extensive use of MDMA.

He emphasized that the study did not control for differences in diet, activity and other variables that might influence 5-HIAA levels. A new study is

under way, with results expected in about a year.

Puzzling to the scientists was the apparent good health of the drug-using participants.

"In our cohort of MDMA subjects, as a group, they are not showing clinical evidence of depression," said Ricaurte, who described participants as of "above average intelligence" and motivated by their interest in the drug.



Passing the hat

THE Duchess of York is given a cap along with numerous scarfs while greeting some of the 10,000 scouts during a visit to their jamboree Sunday in Amherst Prince Edward's Island. The Duchess was covered with scarfs from the different groups from across Canada and the world. (Reuter wirephoto).

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Former US President Richard Nixon plans for the first time to describe in detail his experiences in resigning the presidency and his life in retirement in an autobiography due this spring.

"It is the most personal book I have ever written," Nixon, 76, said in a statement.

Simon and Schuster, the publisher, would not disclose terms of the contract, but said it plans a first printing of at least 200,000 and a major marketing campaign.

It will contain accounts of Nixon's meetings with world leaders and advice about running for office, winning and governing. It also will discuss the drug crisis and education issues, the publisher said. (AP).

MEXICO CITY: Cuban poet Nicolas Guillen, who introduced the rhythms of African and Latin music into verse and was one of Latin America's best known writers, has died at age 87, Cuba's official news agency announced.

The man known as Cuba's "national poet" died yesterday in Cuba after a long illness that resulted in the amputation last month of his left leg, Prensa Latina said.

The agency said Guillen also had suffered from advanced arteriosclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

Guillen's work celebrated Cuba's multi-racial and ethnic mix as well as the 1959 communist revolution that brought Fidel Castro to power. For more than 25 years he was director of Cuba's union of writers and artists. (AP).

BOSSIER CITY, Louisiana: The news conference at the fire station was supposed to be about mosquito control, but the buzz in the crowd was not caused by the pesky insects.

"Is that a naked lady over there or is there something wrong with my eyes?" asked Mayor George Dement, departing from prepared remarks Thursday after spotting a woman walking by wearing only a purple sweatband on her head.

Police said Patricia L. Toney, 25, had been released from city jail earlier Thursday after being booked for public drunkenness, and she was walking home when she decided to disrobe in the rain.

They persuaded her to wrap herself in the city-issued robe she was wearing and she was taken home.

Ms Toney has been arrested before on similar charges, police said. (AP).

MALLAS, Texas: Jerry Hall, Mick Jagger's live-in friend, insists their children get an occasional look at the ride open spaces she knew from her childhood in Mesquite.

The 33-year-old actress and model says she brings 5-year-old Elizabeth, 3-year-old Jagger and 3-year-old Leroy to Texas from their home in England five or six times a year.

Ms Hall, who has a supporting role in the hit movie "Batman," was in Dallas this week to introduce a line of swimwear she designed. The children me along.

"It's so nice to be out in wide open spaces with the beautiful skies, riding waves and having fun," Hall said. "In England, they go to school and you're always confined. ... I also want them to know part of where I come from. They're part Texan, and I want to be sure they know it." (AP).

PRINCE RAINIER of Monaco was quoted today as saying he was so haunted by memories of Princess Grace that he could never marry again.

The 66-year-old ruler, who lost his wife in a car crash in 1962, was quoted in a new book as saying: "I have a wonderful family and I had a wonderful marriage. And everywhere I go is so filled with memories of Grace."

Prince Rainier was devastated by the death of Grace Kelly, the Hollywood actress he married in 1956.

Asked about the possibility of remarrying, he told author Jeffrey Robinson in the book Rainier and Grace: "I see Grace wherever I go. Anyway, I couldn't do it because it would be very difficult for my children. So I won't."

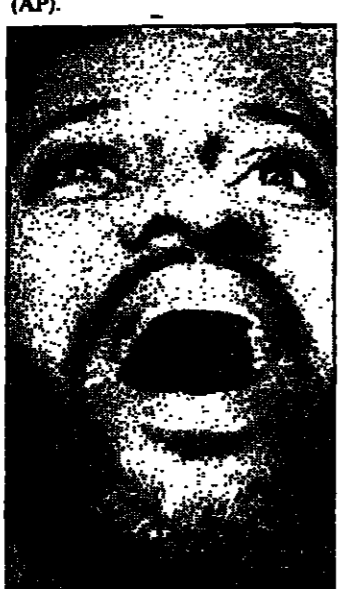
Prince Rainier also squelched persistent rumours of a romance with German-born society-figure princess Ina Von Furstenberg. (Reuter).

HAMBURG, New York: Hamburg residents were ready to celebrate the 104th anniversary of the "birth of the burger," but there was a sizzling debate over the true origin of that most American of meals.

Seymour Weissman, who introduced the hamburger to the city, said the meat party was first served in this Buffalo, New York, suburb at the 1885 Erie County fair by entrepreneurs Francis and Charles Mesches.

Dick Tepp, organizer of a 100th anniversary celebration for the burger in Seymour on August 5, says he can prove the hamburger was first fried and sold by Charles Noyes at the Outagamie County riding fair in Wisconsin in 1889.

"We've done a lot of research, and we have factual, hard evidence pictures, newspaper clippings and even a living descendant," Tepp says. (AP).



Alleluia

Rev. George A. Stallings Jr sings as he celebrates Mass at his 'Amani Temple' Sunday in Washington. Stallings has launched his own African-American congregation threatening to lead the first exodus from mainstream US Catholicism in nearly 100 years. (Reuter wirephoto).

VENICE, Italy: The organizers of a concert by the British rock band Pink Floyd accused the Venice authorities of negligence yesterday as the city cleaned up after an invasion by more than 150,000 fans.

Pink Floyd's manager and the concert organizer said there was a total lack of public order and sanitary facilities as the population of Venice trebled for the 90-minute concert on Saturday night.

"The absence of officials responsible for order in the city and the lack of basic security, hygiene and sanitary facilities is not only act of serious negligence, but a deliberate attempt to show rock fans in a bad light," Pink Floyd manager Steve O'Rourke told reporters.

"The city and thousands of young people from all over Europe were left practically unsupervised," said concert organizer Fran Tomasi. (Reuter).

THE HAGUE, Some 50,000 fans basked in the sounds of jazz's golden age and caught a glimpse of its future this weekend at the North Sea Jazz Festival — one of Europe's largest music events.

Peter Dinklage, Miles Davis were among 800 musicians at the festival as were Chick Corea and Brazilian Tania Maria from a younger generation.

Blues, traditional jazz, big bands and be-bop took their places beside salsa fusion and funk.

Musicians played simultaneously in 12 halls for 10 hours a day Friday to Sunday in the huge Hague convention centre. (Reuter).

SAN DIEGO, California: There wasn't much mention of Michael Milken's upcoming fraud and insider trading trial when he spoke Friday in San Diego at a minority business conference co-sponsored by the commerce department.

Milken, who made \$550 million one year as head of Drexel Burnham's junk bond division, was described in the conference programme as being "instrumental in the development and marketing of a wide range of innovative financial instruments, which have provided more than \$120 billion in growth capital to companies in virtually every industry in America."

In his address, Milken criticised the government for not giving enough support to small businesses and minority entrepreneurs. Hispanic leaders have praised Milken's philanthropies, administered by his Milken family foundation, and his support for minority businesses, including \$600 million in loans to two Hispanic television networks. (UPI).

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand: A leading New Zealand mountain safety expert was killed yesterday by an avalanche on the nation's highest mountain, police said today.

David McNulty, 36, died after being buried by the avalanche on the upper reaches of snow-covered Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest.

McNulty was leading a helicopter-ski party of three Japanese skiers and an American when the avalanche struck.

A police spokesman said McNulty was hit while checking a ski run for the party. His body was found by the others buried under a metre (yard) of snow. No one else was hurt. (AP).

## Cancer a death knell for the poor

WASHINGTON, July 17, (UPI): Cancer often constitutes "a needless death sentence" for the poor and underinsured in the United States, and more cancer prevention and treatment efforts should be targeted at the needy, an American Cancer Society report said today.

The report, based on testimony at seven public hearings held across the nation in May and June, concluded: "Poor people endure greater pain and suffering from cancer than other Americans."

"Millions of Americans living in poverty are not reaping the benefits of advances in cancer prevention, detection and treatment. For these Americans, a diagnosis of cancer is most often a needless death sentence."

The study said the crux of the problem appears to be that cancer is often detected much later in the poor than in more well-to-do patients. Cancer survival usually is much better if the malignancy is detected in its early stages and promptly treated.

The Cancer Society estimates about 178,000 people with cancer probably will die in 1989 who might have been saved by earlier diagnosis and treatment. "These findings provided substantial evidence that many of these needless deaths will occur among the poor," the report stated.

### Inadequacies

The 33-page study said reasons for late detection may include poor people's lower awareness of cancer warning signs and their lack of money to pay for care. But it added the problem "is also a reflection of the inadequacies of the health care system... which encourages patients to wait until their health problems are virtually unbearable before seeking care."

At one hearing, Dr David Ansell, of Chicago's Cook County Hospital, told of how poor cancer patients are frequently "dumped" at his facility when other doctors or hospitals learn they have no money.

Ansell said one cancer patient arrived at the hospital's general medicine clinic with a note, addressed "to whom it may concern," describing her condition in a single paragraph.

"There's no phone call, no chart no medical records... this scenario is repeated daily," Ansell said.

The hearings also highlighted the problems poor cancer patients may face in motivating themselves to fight the disease.

Esther Lefever, a community activist in Atlanta, told of one poor cancer patient whose insurance ran out and was told to apply for Medicaid, which meant she would have to take a lien on her house.

"She told them (authorities) she wanted to leave the house to her children free and clear and she would rather die than do that. Two months later she was dead," Lefever said.

### Difficulties

And the difficulties may continue even if the battle against cancer has been won.

In her testimony, Theresa Hicks of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, said: "Of course, you are ecstatic that you're still alive... but the quality of life that you have to live when you are financially strapped almost makes you wish that you hadn't."

Kathleen Horsch, head of the American Cancer Society's board, said her organization has committed \$2.8 million in seed money for pilot projects to deliver cancer prevention and detection services to the poor.

Such efforts include mobile units to provide free mammography screening to poor women.

## Karajan 'irreplaceable' Austrian maestro mourned

VIENNA, Austria, July 17, (Agencies): Herbert von Karajan, the brilliant Austrian maestro and long-time conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic, is dead at age 81.

Karajan died at 1:30 pm (1130 GMT) yesterday at his home in Annif, a town just outside Salzburg, said Albert Moser, the president of The Salzburg Festival.

Austrian television said the cause of death was heart failure. Karajan had long been ill and severe back pain made it difficult for him to walk unaided to the podium.

As recently as Saturday Karajan attended rehearsal as he had done regularly over the past several weeks for Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Un Ballo in Maschera" (A Masked Ball), with which he was to open the festival on July 27.

Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said the music world had lost "one of its very greatest."

Moser told Austrian TV that the festival the loss "for a long time to come will be irreplaceable."

A woman who claims to be the daughter of Karajan wept yesterday on hearing of his death.

Ute de Doncker, whose paternity suit against Karajan is still

pending in a Salzburg provincial court, said his death had shattered her dream of meeting her real father.

"At the moment I'm really shocked," she said in a telephone interview. "For me he was my father. My biggest wish was to talk to my father and it wasn't possible."

De Doncker, born in 1944, says she was the result of a wartime romance between Karajan

and her mother in Berlin. She has joint East German and Belgian nationality and now lives in Sunderland, northeast England, with her Belgian husband.

Karajan, who conducted at the Salzburg Festival since 1948, was its sole artistic director in 1956-1960 and had been on the directorate since 1964. Last year he resigned from the body, but continued to conduct for this year's festival.



Karajan is shown in an undated file photo. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Laureate says critics lie about him

NEW YORK, July 17, (AP): Nobel laureate Alexander Solzhenitsyn, breaking a long silence, says he is amazed when people give him and his books labels such as anti-semitic, chauvinistic, xenophobic and nationalistic.

"It is quite extraordinary the extent to which have been lied about," he said in his first major American interview in 10 years, which appears in the July 24 issue of Time.

"Some people distort things consciously, others just don't take the trouble to check their sources," he said. "It is remarkable, and it makes me ashamed of journalists. No one ever gives any quotes."

Since leaving the Soviet Union and arriving in Caven-

dish, Vermont, with his family in 1976, Solzhenitsyn has written more than 5,000 printed pages in Russian of an epic covering the period surrounding the Russian Revolution of 1917. One of the novels of the series, August 1914, is being published in English this week by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Solzhenitsyn, who won the Nobel prize for literature in 1970, said public opinion about him is varied in Europe, but monolithic in the Soviet Union and United States.

"In the Soviet Union I can understand it. It is due to the Politburo," he said. "But in the US fashion is very important."

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AIRLANKA It's a taste of Paradise

## Explorers plan trek across bottom of the world

MINNEAPOLIS, July 17, (AP): A team of international explorers is about to embark on a trans-antarctic trek of dog sleds, ready to brave bleak air, frigid cold and the bitter winds nature dish out.

The team is led by Will Steger of the United States. Jean-Louis Etienne of France. Other members Soviet scientist Victor Boyarsky, Englishman J. Somers, Keizo Funatsu of Japan and Qin of China.

He team left yesterday from Minneapolis and a Soviet transport plane en route to Antarctica carrying 42 dogs and about six tonnes of

equipment.

After several stops in Latin America, their seven-month, 4,000-mile (6,500 kilometres) trip across the bottom of the world is to begin Aug. 1, weather permitting. The team hopes the gruelling journey from west to east will rivet attention on international co-operation, as well as the continent's stark fragility.

At the same time, Steger, 44, wants to pursue a dream he has fostered for years: to conquer the world's most forbidding frontier.

"I've travelled north for so many years now, and I've been drawn to these areas," said Steger. "It's

the frontier, it's the white spots on the map, the adventure and the exhilaration of travelling in those unknown places that draws me."

Others have crossed Antarctica on snowmobiles and snow tractors, but this will be the first unmechanised crossing.

The venture has drawn much publicity and money, with corporations in the United States and France contributing nearly \$10 million. A \$3.2 million aluminium boat will serve as a floating embassy and communications base.

The trip south will include stops in Havana, Cuba; Lima, Peru; and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

# Red Cross builds up trust in torture victims

MALMO, Sweden, July 17, (Reuters): At a Red Cross centre at Malmo the doctors don't wear white coats and there are no medical appliances to be seen. This is because all the patients here are torture victims.

The atmosphere at the centre is calm and friendly, as staff listen to the anguished outpourings of the victims, share their torment and offer help.

"We aim to reaffirm some caring,

human values to people who have been treated more like animals," said Rosie Rothstein, head of the Red Cross Rehabilitation Centre for torture victims in southern Sweden.

"We try to build up trust so the patients aren't afraid to tell us anything. They realise we will have heard most of it before," she told Reuters in an interview.

She sees the workers at the Red Cross

centre as open containers to which the patients can pour all the horrors they have experienced, and which most people find too appalling to contemplate.

Besides severe pain, touring means degradation, humiliation, the constant threat of assault and the loss of control.

"While they might be afraid of medical authority, many patients trust the Red Cross, having met Red Cross workers in prison or refugee camps,"

Rothstein said.

The centre took its first patients in August 1988 from among the thousands of refugees who seek political asylum in Sweden every year.

It currently has 60 patients undergoing treatment, the youngest a 17-year-old girl.

Rothstein says many of the patients come from South America, including Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia and El

Salvador.

"The people who come to us are people with very strong resources. They have survived the torturer's cell, they don't commit suicide — not an uncommon result of torture — and they have fled their homelands in danger of their lives. Now they are attempting to build new lives as refugees," she said.

"We try to find out what kept them alive and strengthen those resources."

"Sometimes it gets difficult, like when you hear a 27-year-old tell you how the military burnt his wife and kids. You hear such awful evil things that it's hard to imagine the world can be so bad," said Rothstein.

"The important thing is we don't have to pretend not to be affected, we can cry if we want. And on the other hand our work is very rewarding," she said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jumped to death

PARIS, July 17, (KUNA): A 31-year-old German tourist killed himself this morning by jumping from one of the towers of the Notre-Dame Cathedral, one of the highly visited places in Paris, in front of the Seine River.

The young man, who fell in the square next to the cathedral, died on the spot, the police said.

This is the second suicide case in less than a month at Notre-Dame after that of June 26 when another desperate man jumped from one of the towers killing himself and the 13-year-old girl on whom he had fallen.

### Strife deepens

WARSAW, July 17, (Reuters): A row between Jews and Roman Catholics over a nursery at Auschwitz has deepened, with Jewish radicals staging new protests against its presence and demanding a Polish cardinal resign.

For the second time in three days, Rabbi Abraham Weiss of Riverdale, New York, and four followers climbed over a fence of the nursery beside the wall of the former Nazi death camp yesterday.

### Swede killed

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, July 17, (AP): Police killed a 39-year-old man who started shooting at passers-by from his home in a northern town, a police spokesman said today.

The man, whose name was withheld, barricaded himself in a cellar yesterday in Kalix, about 600 miles (1,000 kilometres) north of Stockholm, and fired indiscriminately at passers-by with a shotgun, said Rolf Styrborn of the Kalix police.

"Two policemen received light bullet wounds during the shooting, which continued almost 24 hours," said Styrborn.

### Peace talks

KINSHASA, Zaire, July 17, (AP): Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko met with delegations from both sides in Angola's civil war yesterday, clearing the way for direct talks to resume on Wednesday, an Angolan spokesman said.

Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem announced the resumption of talks that were suspended when his government accused Jonas Savimbi's guerrillas of violating a ceasefire.

### New newspaper

ISTANBUL, July 17, (Reuters): Turkey's first new English-language daily to open since 1961 hit the streets today, aimed at the country's growing expatriate business community and the diplomatic corps, its editor-in-chief said.

The Istanbul-based Turkish Times will concentrate on economic and business news but will also cover local and world affairs, Ayaz Schiffrin told Reuters.

The paper, with an initial circulation of 15,000, sells for 1,000 liras (47 cents), a copy.

### Landmine kills 3

KASTANEA, Greece, July 17, (AP): Three Turks of Kurdish descent were killed by a landmine yesterday after crossing into Greece illegally, police said.

"Apparently they intended to ask for asylum in Greece," said a police spokesman in the border village of Kastanea.

The accident occurred at dawn shortly after the two men and a woman crossed the Evros river separating Greece from Turkey.

A police spokesman said the three ignored signs warning of a minefield.

### Grenade attack

MANAGUA, July 17, (UPI): A man hurled a grenade into a food stall yesterday, killing one person and wounding at least 30 others just three days before the 10th anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution, official and radio reports said.

Authorities denied that the grenade attack was politically motivated. The blast broke down at a town market in Ciudad Sandino, 6 miles (10 km) west of the capital, killed Juan Antonio Murillo, 42, official Voz de Nicaragua radio said.

### 35 feared dead

QUITO, July 17, (Reuters): Up to 35 people were feared dead and about 30,000 people were homeless following floods and landslides this week caused by heavy rains in the Ecuadorian Amazon jungle, a civil defence spokesman said yesterday.

The heavy rainfall also caused a landslide which damaged the country's main oil pipeline, leading to a suspension in export of crude oil from Ecuador, an OPEC member nation.

### Abkhazia violence

MOSCOW, July 17, (Reuters): Soviet Army units struggling to restore order in the Black Sea resort city of Sukhumi acted as a buffer today between crowds of rival Georgians and Abkhazians who clashed over the weekend, killing 14 people.

Officials said the unrest in Sukhumi, the regional capital of Abkhazia, had spread to almost every district in the region, an autonomous republic within Soviet Georgia, although there were no immediate reports of casualties.

There have been no further clashes in Sukhumi, but Army units are keeping crowds of Georgians and Abkhazians apart in the city. Abkhazian radio and television chief Shamil Pilia told Reuters by telephone. Pilia said some incidents had been reported near the airport just outside Sukhumi and around the towns of Gagra, Gudauta and Ochamchire. But he added, "We have no reports of any casualties."

## Insult paves way to EP

### Racial attack

ROME, July 17, (Reuters): Seven months ago Dacia Valent was racially insulted and attacked in a petrol station near Palermo.

Today, as a direct result, she is a member of the European Parliament.

Valent, daughter of an Italian diplomat and a Somali princess — 3 "even if that doesn't mean much" — has been catapulted from the tough, obscure life of a black policewoman, into European Parliament.

Valent, 27, was elected with 75,000 preference votes in central Italy and 73,500 in the northeast, the third most successful candidate on the list of the opposition Communist Party in both areas although she is not a party member.

None of this would have happened if a drunken Italian had not made obscene remarks, then insulted her and finally attacked her in the petrol station.

"The Communist Party would never have chosen me as a candidate if it had not been for the fact that I had become a symbol," said Valent.

"I feel really terrified, I am an outsider, a policewoman who for accidental reasons finds herself in the European Parliament, and this is something that I may never shake off," she told Reuters in an interview.

Italy has no large black community from former colonies and this delayed the advent of a serious race problem until the 1980s, when immigrants began to arrive in significant numbers.

"Today it is very different. They come because of the need to work, they cling on with teeth and nails and the alternative is often to see their children grow or not grow with their stomachs swollen," Valent said.

She has close and tragic experience of how serious racism has become in the last decade with the arrival of more than a million foreign workers, the vast majority illegal.

In 1985, her teen-age brother was stabbed to death by two school mates after racist threats in the northeast city of Udine, where her family lives.

On Jan. 3 this year Valent, wearing plain clothes, drove into a service station in Sicily with three fellow policemen.

She called her companions to help her against the drunken Italian who spat in her face and punched her when she identified herself as a policewoman, but they refused to arrest him or check his papers, pushing her into the car and driving off.

"They didn't think it was important and he got more violent because he would see they were a walk-over. I appealed to



Dacia Valent

them, I cried like an idiot, it was so ridiculous," she said.

Valent, who worked as a bodyguard for magistrates and officials in Italy's Mafia capital, filed a complaint to her superiors but then began to receive anonymous racist insults over the police radio.

She was moved to office duties at police headquarters.

The case attracted wide media attention and her articulate views about the need to end illegal immigration and with it racism quickly made her well known.

"The life of a black in Italy is made up of many acts of prejudice... I do not know why this affair has become such a national case," she says.

Valent says poor Italians are naturally prejudiced against immigrants because their often clandestine status, lack of rights and low wages make them more attractive to employers.

She says illegal immigration must be stopped but the real solution is improvement of economic conditions in the Third World so that poverty does not force emigration.

She intends to work in Strasbourg to improve the Lome trade and aid convention between the European Economic Community and Third World nations which lapses in 1991.

"We need an alternative in which the Third World is really developed... so the industrialised North no longer heavily exploits a South condemned to under-industrialisation and dependent on primary products, so that emigration is no longer obligatory," she said.

## US vows to improve ties with Moscow

LEIDEN, Netherlands, July 17, (Reuters): President George Bush vowed today to support reform in Eastern Europe by improving US ties with the Soviet Union and declared "a new world lies within our reach."

Bush, who last week made historic visits to Poland and Hungary to encourage fledgling political and economic reforms in the two communist countries, pledged to seek "an international climate in which reform can succeed."

"That is why America's relations with the Soviet Union are so important, improved relations with the USSR reduce pressure on the nations of Eastern Europe — especially those on the cutting edge of reform," he said.

Bush, in a speech in this Dutch town from where many of America's 17th century Pilgrim Fathers sailed across the Atlantic for the new world, declared: "Today, as when the pilgrims left this city, a new world lies within our reach."

He hailed Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's latest bid for economic co-operation with the West as "the latest example of the Soviet moving in our direction, coming our way."

Over the weekend, Gorbachev sent a letter to the economic summit in Paris of the seven major industrial democracies proposing closer economic ties between East and West. The letter was delivered to French President Francois Mitterrand on Saturday.

Bush, who has said he wants to move beyond the post-war policy of "containment" under which the West sought to bottle up communism, declared today that his aim was European unity.

"The new world we seek is a commonwealth of free nations working in concert — a world where more and more nations enter a widening circle of freedom," he said.

Bush repeated recent assurances that Moscow had nothing to fear from reforms among its East bloc allies.

Earlier, Bush and his wife Barbara had tea at Noorheide Palace with Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus. Bush then conferred with Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers.

The Netherlands was the last stop on a gruelling 10-day European tour that Bush, 65, admitted had worn him out.

"We're kind of running out of gas," Bush told a news conference in Paris yesterday evening. "It's been a vigorous experience in physical fitness for me."

In Leiden, Bush placed a wreath at a memorial to John Robinson, pastor to the pilgrim community that sat about 50 of its members to America on the Mayflower in 1620.

The President is said to be a descendant of Mayflower passenger William Bradford. Bradford took refuge in Leiden because of religious persecution in England. He lived in the Netherlands for 13 years before sailing to America.

Bush is to return to Washington tomorrow after a highly successful trip in which he put Eastern Europe near the top of the western agenda, winning a commitment from the Paris Economic Summit for a co-ordinated effort to bolster political and economic reform efforts in the East bloc.

### Pollution control

WASHINGTON, July 17, (UPI): Only half of the 96 US cities now suffering excessive ozone smog will be able to meet federal clean air standards by the year 2000 using current pollution control technology, congressional experts say.

## Tobacco users get as much nicotine as cigarette smokers

### Risk for heart disease increases

BOSTON, July 17, (UPI): People who use chewing tobacco and snuff appear to get as much nicotine as cigarette smokers, and the practice may also increase their risk for heart disease and various forms of cancer, researchers reported.

A new study by researchers at the University of California-San Francisco, published yesterday in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, found men who used "smokeless tobacco" were exposed to about as much nicotine as cigarette smokers.

The study also found that like cigarette smok-

ing, smokeless tobacco use also increase the heart rate and blood pressure, and chewing tobacco appeared to expose users to potentially cancer-causing chemicals.

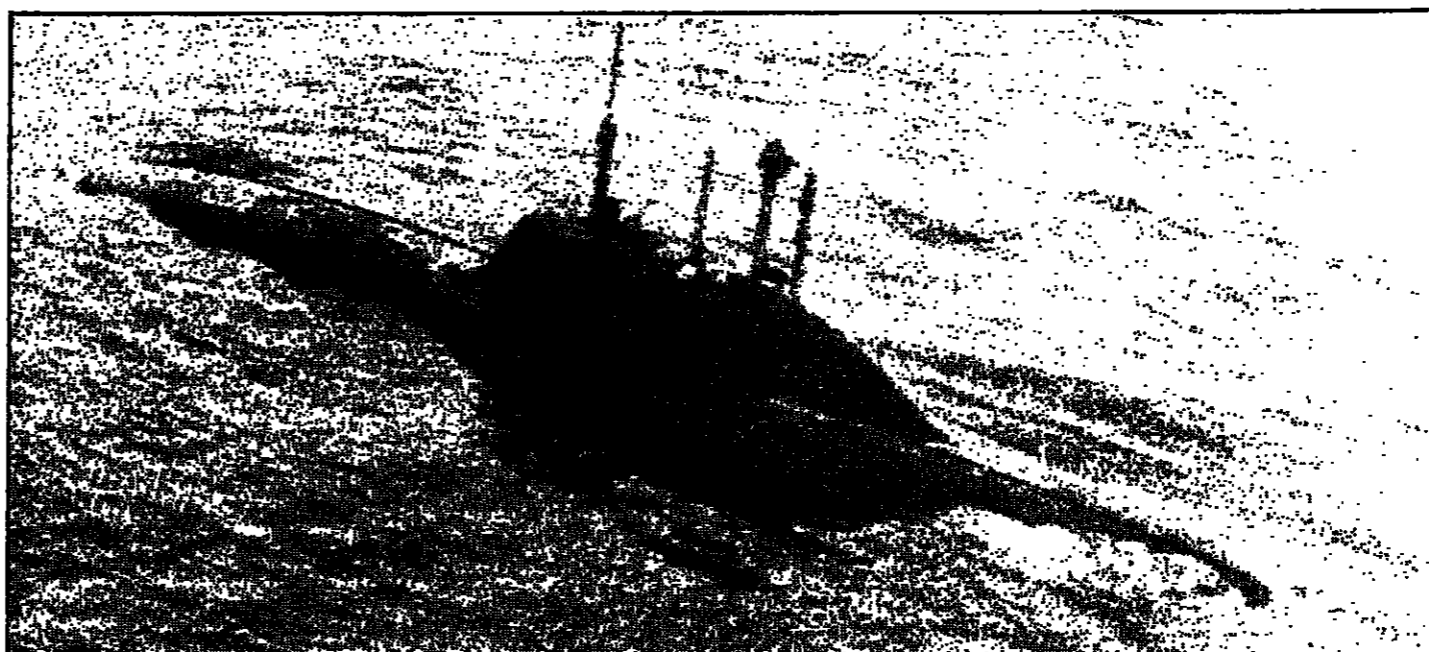
"Our study showed that use of smokeless tobacco results in levels of nicotine and cardiovascular effects throughout the day that are similar to those observed with daily cigarette smoking," the researchers wrote.

But there has been a dearth of scientific evidence about the addictive quality of that form of tobacco use and its links to other forms of cancer and heart disease, the researchers said.

In the new study, Dr. Neal Benowitz and colleagues paid eight healthy men who were regular heavy cigarette smokers to check into the San Francisco Hospital for just over two weeks.

During three, four-day periods, the researchers tested their blood, urine and measured their blood pressure and heart rate while they either smoked cigarettes, used smokeless tobacco or abstained from all tobacco use.

Surprisingly, the researchers found the men were exposed to about the same amounts of nicotine when they used any kind of tobacco.



This filephoto shows an Alpha class Soviet attack submarine. Norwegian television reported that an Alpha class Soviet nuclear-powered submarine is ablaze in the Barents Sea off the northern Norwegian coast. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Soviets deny fire on N-sub

### Norway accepts Moscow explanation

OSLO, Norway, July 17, (AP): Norway accepted an explanation from the Soviet Union today that no fire occurred aboard a nuclear submarine that belched black smoke.

But Norwegian officials complained that the Soviets should have reported what they called a defect in the ship's nuclear power system that forced it to the surface of the Barents Sea yesterday.

Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov said the smoke that appeared to come from a fire on board the Alfa class submarine was the exhaust from the ship's diesel engines, the Tass news agency reported.

"The Soviets have indirectly confirmed that there was a problem with the reaction, and in that kind of situation we want to be informed," Kanavin said.

The Alfa-class ship was spotted pouring smoke from its observation tower yesterday and was being towed by a Soviet tugboat, said Erik Senstad, another Defence Ministry spokesman.

In response to a diplomatic query, Foreign Ministry spokesman Oyvind Nordsletten said Soviet officials told Norway yesterday that the smoke was part of an exercise and that the submarine had never been in trouble.

Yazov said today that the submarine had been on a combat training mission and was shifting its power load to a battery when "one of the cells was short-circuited."

"The submarine surfaced. Its diesel engines were fired and produced the exhaust," Tass quoted him as saying.

Norwegian Television showed the submarine cruising swiftly under its own power and reported no outward signs of an accident.

The ship was sighted by the Norwegian research vessel Mariatta in the Barents Sea about 75 miles (120 kilometres) east of the Norwegian town of Vardo and north of the Kola Peninsula.

Senstad said the submarine may have reached a Soviet northern fleet base on the Kola Peninsula today.

## Vatican ties with Poland

VATICAN CITY, July 17, (AP): The Holy See and Poland today re-established full diplomatic relations, making Poland the first Warsaw Pact country to have such ties with the Vatican.

The announcement by the Vatican said the relations, cut by the communists who took power in Poland in 1945, are at the level of ambassador.

Negotiations had been going on for some time, and Polish-born Pope John Paul II indicated recently an agreement was near. He disclosed a week ago he intended to send an envoy soon but did not say when.

Monday's announcement said the agreement took effect immediately. It said the decision was made in consideration of the "noble tradition" of links between the centuries between the Holy See and the Polish nation, which is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic.

During his visit to Poland in June 1987, the Pope said the lack of diplomatic ties with such a Catholic country was "something abnormal" and could be harmful to the country.

There was no immediate announcement on the name of the Vatican envoy, but there has been speculation it could be Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo.

## Costliest airplane

## Stealth ends maiden flight

PALMDALE, Calif., July 17, (Agencies): With the future of one of the most controversial weapons programmes in US history riding on its "flying wing," the B-2 Stealth bomber completed its long-delayed maiden flight today.

The sleek, radar-evading aircraft, a product of eight years of development and \$23 billion of taxpayers' money, soared into the sky from a California desert runway to the cheers of about 100 spectators gathered at an Air Force facility.

The bomber landed safely at Edwards Air Force base two hours later.

The B-2, with Northrop test pilot Bruce J. Hinds and Air Force test pilot Richard S. Couch at the controls and its four engines roaring, got off the ground on its second attempt. A fuel system glitch scuttled the first try at a maiden flight on Saturday.

The B-2 is designed to fly 10,000 miles (16,000 km) with up to 25 tons of nuclear or conven-

tional weapons but on its first flight it was supposed to carry only a payload of commemorative lapel pins to be distributed to Northrop employees.

The bomber went through its final stakedown last Thursday, reaching a speed of 130 mph (210 kph) and lifting its nose wheels off the ground in high-speed taxi tests.

Brig. Gen. Richard Scofield, director of the Stealth programme, said the two high-speed taxi tests — low-speed tests were conducted July 10 — were a success. The airplane went through 122,000 hours of pre-flight testing.

The price of the plane has produced shock waves in Washington.

"I recognise the sticker shock," Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said last week, but argued that the \$70 billion programme for 132 bombers priced at \$530 million each will consume a small percentage on the defence budget than either the B-52 or the B-1B bombers.



Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara waves to supporters after the first meeting of the negotiations. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Panama holds reconciliation talks

### OAS mediating

PANAMA CITY, July 17, (AP): Opposition leaders, government and military representatives planned to resume talks today in their first attempt to negotiate an end to Panama's political deadlock.

Representatives of the three sides met for the first time yesterday in a meeting mediated by the Organisation of American States. It was the first time military officials, who had vowed not to negotiate with civilians, sat down to listen to opposition demands.

"There was no debate. Each side expressed its points of view in all frankness," opposition leader Guillermo Endara said after the three-hour session held in the OAS offices. "I am optimistic."

The opposition is calling for the removal of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, who as head of the Pan-

amanian Defense Forces is the country's de facto leader. Panama's political scene has been in turmoil for 18 months, and the problems worsened after the May 7 presidential election.

International observers contend that Noriega used his power to have the election annulled when it became apparent that Endara had won despite alleged fraud on the part of Noriega's supporters. But the Noriega-backed government says it annulled the election because of what it called foreign interference and vote fraud.

"We come here in good faith. If there is any reciprocity, we might finally have a united, reconciled Panama," Endara told reporters before the session.

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## Bush, Fahd to discuss Lebanon

BEIRUT, July 17: The Kuwaiti, Ayi, Al Seyyash, has learned that political moves to break the Lebanese deadlock have been pending the outcome of a meeting between King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and US President George Bush scheduled in Washington on July 17.

Reliable political sources in Beirut told Al Seyyash that King Fahd, who along with King Hassan of Morocco and Algerian President Chadli Ben-Boudjedid are members of the Arab League committee charged with finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis, will seek during his talks with Bush to reach a US-Syrian agreement.

The sources noted that the main reason for not implementing the Casablanca Summit resolutions on Lebanon is continued differences between Washington and Damascus over solving the Lebanese crisis which has been deepened by the upsurge in fighting between the Syrian army and the Lebanese army. However, the sources expected King Fahd's talks in Washington to succeed in narrowing the US-Syrian differences over the Lebanese crisis and consequently in speeding up the implementation of the summit resolutions on Lebanon.

AP adds: Syrian and Christian army gunners traded tank and artillery fire in Beirut and its surroundings today, killing one person and wounding 15, police said.

Artillery explosions jolted both sides of the divided capital at dawn as the confrontation between the Syrian Army and Aoun's 20,000 troops dragged on with no solution in sight.

Today's casualties raised the overall toll to 419 killed and 1,688 wounded since the current cycle in the 14-year-old civil war erupted March 8.

Civilians huddled in basements and underground shelters as Christian and Syrian gunners showered the city and nearby hills with howitzers, mortars and tank fire.

The exchanges started when Syrian batteries deployed in Muslim West Beirut's seaside Ein Merheeh Boulevard fired on the coast of north of Beirut, maintaining a sea blockade to prevent fuel, food and arms supplies from reaching the beleaguered Christian enclave by sea.

Spokesman for Aoun's command said Syrian gunboats that had been patrolling the 28-mile (45-kilometre) Christian coastline have withdrawn to a point nine miles (15 kilometres) beyond territorial waters.

Beirut's independent daily newspaper An Nahar said the pullback apparently was designed to avert a naval confrontation with Israeli units that regularly cruise the Mediterranean.

The security deterioration over the weekend followed the formation of an Iranian-sponsored front comprising Muslim and leftist militias as well as Palestinian groups supported by Syrian to confront the right-wing Christians.

The alliance calls for the ouster of Aoun, backed by Iraq.

# Afghan Air Force neutralises Stinger missile

MEYMANEH, Afghanistan, July 17: (AP) As the Soviet-built MI-8 helicopter swooped down over an abandoned village, co-pilot Mohammad Younus put his fingers on the firing button. Every mud or stone village is a potential hideout for Muslim rebels armed with Stingers, the shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles that changed the course of the war with the Soviet-backed government.

"Amerikai, Stinger — Zalim" (Americans, Stingers are bad), the 22-year-old Younus murmurs. He takes his finger off the button, without firing, and speeds the helicopter to 220 kilometres (135 miles) an hour.

The threat of the missiles lingers in Younus' mind. But the rebels and their Western backers say the Afghan Air Force has learned how to evade their chief weapon.

Younus is one of an estimated 17,000 men in the Afghan Air Force, backbone of the Afghan defence. Those forces defied

predictions of imminent collapse after the departure last February of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

At the end of a 230-kilometre (140-mile) journey to Meymaneh, capital of Faryab Province, one could see the rows of gunships, fighter bombers and transport planes parked on small airfields in the desert.

It is a rare glimpse. Kabul is secretive about disclosing much about its Air Force and only maintains that it is well-trained and equipped. Before the end of the nine-year Soviet intervention, most foreign defence experts doubted the capability of the Air Force, which had been eclipsed by the Red Army for nine years.

But the Air Force pilots have proved themselves by helping to hold the key cities of Jalalabad, Kandahar and Herat against a rebel offensive since March.

Rebel commanders in Pakistan concede the Air Force has combined high-level bombing and sweeping ground attacks to

render the Stingers ineffective.

The 35-kilogramme (16-pound) missile, which has a maximum range of about five kilometres (three miles), tracks the heat of an aircraft's engine.

Delivered by the United States to the rebels in 1986, the Stinger took a heavy toll on Soviet and Afghan military aircraft until this year.

A recent US Army report on the Stingers concluded the Stingers had changed the course of the civil war that erupted following a Marxist coup in April 1978.

The report said the rebels had downed 269 aircraft in 340 firings, an average of about 80 per cent, extraordinary even by US standards.

But some military analysts have expressed scepticism that reliable figures could be obtained because the rebels often exaggerated their capabilities.

The Soviets eventually introduced flares, which when dropped from aircraft, can confuse a Stinger missile.

## Najib accuses Pakistan

# US urged to stop aid

KABUL, Afghanistan, July 17: (AP) Afghan President Najib has asked the United States to stop Pakistan from aiding Muslim rebels.

"Pakistan has given a terrorist dimension to the war," Najib said in a letter to US President George Bush that was released to reporters yesterday.

Pakistan is home to the seven main US-backed rebel groups, known as the mujahadeen, or Islamic holy warriors. Islamabad has denied the Kabul government's charge of direct involvement in the rebel attacks.

Najib renewed the accusation, citing Saturday's truck-bomb blast in downtown Kabul that killed at least 20 people, and July 10 rocket attacks on the city that left at least 20 people dead.

"These developments have created a serious threat to peace and stability in the region and posed a threat of a vast conflict... indeed the future responsibility of

any such conflict will solely rest on Pakistan," Najib said.

Najib said Pakistan was ignoring its commitments to the UN-sponsored Geneva Accord of April 1988 that called for an end to outside interference in the rebel's 11-year-old effort to overthrow the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

Following the accord, the Soviet Union ended 9 years of involvement in the civil war and withdrew its soldiers by Feb 15. But the Soviets continued to arm the Afghan government.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today said he delivered to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev proposals from the United Nations for ending the decade-long war in Afghanistan.

Rajiv did not disclose the contents of the proposals but said they were comprehensive and adequate. He said Gorbachev had a similar reaction.

They also adopted counter-measures that took advantage of the shift from the hit-and-run rebel attacks of the past decade, to more conventional battle.

The Stingers are of no use against the Soviet-supplied Antonov-12 transport planes, which were converted to drop bombs above the range of the Stingers.

The bombing, military experts say, is to blame for as much as 50 per cent of the casualties in the 50-month-old siege of Jalalabad.

# Israelis blow up 2 homes

## W. Bank schools to be reopened

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17: (Agencies) Soldiers today blew up the homes of two Palestinians suspected of fatally stabbing an Israeli building contractor last Friday, the Army said.

Meanwhile, Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip observed a general strike called by underground uprising leaders to protest harsh conditions in Israeli prisons.

Shops and businesses were closed throughout the territories, and public transport was halted. More than 8,600 Palestinians currently are in detention for suspected security violations, the Army said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced yesterday that almost half of the 1,200 schools which have been closed for most of the 19-month Palestinian uprising will be reopened at week's end.

Israeli officials said they closed schools because they consider them hotbeds of nationalist violence. Israeli radio said the Defence Ministry was under strong pressure from the United States and Europe to reopen classes.

The United Nations Relief and Works Association said West Bank schools have only completed 40 days in the current academic year.

"We hope these schools... stay open so that Palestinian children do not suffer any further harm from the suspension of the learning process," UNRWA's Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacomelli said in a statement released earlier this week from the agency's Vienna headquarters.

In a tour of the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, a hardliner in Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Likud bloc, called for Israel to "eliminate" PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

He described the 19-month uprising against Israeli rule in the territories as "a war" and said "the most important thing is to restore law and order, to bring to an end terror and violence... and to eliminate the heads of the terrorist organisations, first of all Arafat."

He accused the government of "handing out tranquillizers" and called for stronger measures to end the uprising, which has taken the lives of 565 Palestinians and 36 Israelis.

Three Palestinians were shot and wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers in the occupied territories today, Arab reports said.

The homes were destroyed in Gaza city's Shajaiya quarter after the two youths were arrested for allegedly killing 64-year-old Zelman Yosef Schlein in the southern Israel town of Gan Yavne.

The two 16-year-old youths, Nahed Yusef Radwan Gundiah and Mohammed Mahmud Ayed Hamdiya, also allegedly confessed to belonging to groups associated with Fatah, Arafat's mainstream faction of the PLO, the Army said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin failed in an effort to end a government crisis and restore credibility to his peace initiative.

In the weekly cabinet meeting, Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres blocked efforts to end a crisis set off earlier this month when Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc set headline conditions to the government peace initiative.



Peres with colleagues

Shimon Peres (wearing tie) consults with cabinet minister colleagues from his Labour Party Sunday in occupied Jerusalem. From left to right are Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, Peres, Communications Minister Gad Yacobi, Health Minister Yaacov Ariss and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. (Reuter wirephoto)

## 'Bomb charmer' saves lives

# Beirut's war hero

BEIRUT, Lebanon, July 17: (AP) They call Youssef Bitar the "bomb magician."

The Lebanese demolitions specialist has defused more than 2,000 terrorist bombs during the course of a 14-year civil war.

His record appears unequalled. At 61 years of age, he has survived a mine explosion, been shot at several times and survived three assassination attempts.

He gets a salary of \$200 a month — and free gasoline.

"If all the bombs he's defused had gone off, the death toll of the civil war would have more than doubled," said a police colonel, who declined identification. "Bitar is indispensable."

More than 150,000 people have been killed in the civil war, hundreds of them in car bombings. When car bombs explode before he can get to them, Bitar usually can tell by the blast how much explosive was used — and sometimes even the type.

Bitar has defused 300 car bombs outside hospitals, airline offices, newspaper buildings, embassies, government ministries, movie theatres, churches and mosques. Most of the others were powerful devices planted in jetties, supermarkets, banks, schools, universities and gasoline stations.

He estimates the total explosive weight of the bombs he had defused since 1975 at more than 100 tons.

A Christian, Bitar regularly defies Lebanon's sectarian barriers, racing across Beirut's dividing green line from the Christian East to the Muslim West, dodging shells and sniper fire to do his duty.

In 1983, he dismantled the biggest bomb of his career, a device planted in West Beirut packing 600 kilograms (1,320 pounds) of dynamite and four ketyusha rockets. It could have pulverised a city block.

"That was probably the worst disaster I've prevented," he said in an interview in his elegant East Beirut penthouse apartment.

Bitar stroked his Siamese cat Rambo as he talked dispassionately about his exploits, gestulating with hands missing three fingertips.

Talking of his exploits seemed incongruous amid the plush Persian carpets, brass ornaments and the Oriental decor of his marble-floored apartment.

He lost one fingertip when a detonator exploded in his hands.

He lost two fingertips on the other hand in 1982 when he stepped on a mine after he had defused a bomb in a Palestinian commando base in the mountains overlooking Beirut. The blast also injured his

chest and feet.

"That cost me three months in hospital," Bitar said.

A veteran of the French Foreign Legion, who fought the Germans with Gen. Charles de Gaulle's Free French Forces in World War II, Bitar calls himself a "bomb charmer."

He joined the Foreign Legion as a teenager when Lebanon was still ruled by France and served with special forces and demolition teams in North Africa and Europe.

"I was with De Gaulle's Free French Forces in Algeria when I heard about the American atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima Aug. 6, 1945," he recalled. "It sort of kindled my interest in explosives."

After joining the Lebanese Army in 1946, Bitar became Lebanon's top explosives expert. But he really came into his own when the civil war erupted in 1975 and the car bombings started.

"I operate with great faith in God," Bitar said. "But I rely mainly on intuition — and a little bit of luck."

"I can tell the kind of bomb I've got to tackle the moment I see it. I try to disconnect it as quickly as possible. I feel as if it's placed under the bed of one of my children," he said.

He said he never panics because he can see right away what needs to be done. "The bombs don't frighten me. But I am always afraid of the people who planted them," Bitar said.

The first time someone tried to kill him during his bomb duty was Sept. 19, 1975, as he defused a car bomb in the Barbir neighbourhood of West Beirut. "Two bullets hit my neck and chest, but I managed to finish dismantling the bomb before I collapsed. I stayed two months in hospital that time," he said.

Gunmen shot at him, and missed, three years later, as he was defusing a bomb near the entrance to a movie house in the Muslim sector.

The third assassination attempt was in 1985, while he was visiting the Helou Police Station in West Beirut.

"Someone tossed a hand grenade into the room," he said. "I threw myself to the floor to grab it and threw it out the window into the parking lot. No one was hurt."

Although Bitar retired from the Army in 1980, he was immediately hired by the Defence Ministry.

"I don't think of quitting," he said. "When I look in the eyes of people when I arrive to tackle a bomb, I see their faith in me. I'll fight the bombers as long as I live."

# Riots blamed on Israelis

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, July 17: (AP) King Hussein blamed Israel today for the riots that gripped South Jordan in April, saying the Israelis needed the crisis as part of their plan for dealing with the Palestinian problem.

"I believe it is all not divorced from the Palestinian issue and from Israeli intentions and Israeli objectives, and those in Israel who say the Palestinian issue is that of a people who can get their rights... in Jordan," Hussein said in an interview published in the Saudi Arabian daily Asharq Al Awsat.

The king referred in the interview to the so-called Jordan option or, in alternative homeland proposals aired over the years in Israel, whereby the Palestinians should seek their desired state in the Hashemite Kingdom.

But Hussein said the 19-month old uprising of the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip, "has dramatically changed the picture."

"They (the Israelis) have always tried to ignore the reality of the right of those people (the Palestinians) to their national soil and targeted Jordan from afar, leaving Jordan with tremendous responsibilities in the field of arms and development to be able to confront this conspiracy," said Hussein.

The riots in which at least nine people died and government buildings and banks were attacked in dozens of cities and villages were triggered by tight economic straits in the kingdom.

"The country was saddled by a multi-billion dollar foreign debt while retail prices spiralled and per capita income slipped by about a half in the recent years."

Hussein said Israel tried to sabotage Jordan's economy by manipulating the large pool of dinars in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

As much as one-third to one-half of Jordan's paper currency is believed held in those territories.

Under the tight circumstances, and while the Jordanian dinar remained under pressure, Jordan was forced to use "some part" of its Central Bank reserves, said Hussein.

Economic analysis in Amman have said the value of the dinar also was weakened when Hussein last year severed ties with the West Bank, creating uncertainty about financial links.

Hussein said in the interview "the administrative disengagement with the occupied West Bank was a wise decision, adopted at the time in response to the desire of our Palestinian brethren and those who one day want to see a union."

That was a reference to an Arab-supported view that an independent Palestinian state when created could be federated with Jordan.

The relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians was presently "better than it ever was, with suspicions erased about Jordan and its objectives," he said.

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# 'It's an appalling tragedy'

## Tribal wars escalate

KHARTOUM, Sudan, July 17: (AP) Western Sudan's tribal wars used to be fought on camelback with spears. In recent years machine guns and off-road vehicles have escalated the conflicts to a level approaching civil war.

Thousands have died in these little-known conflicts, which have been fought alongside a full-scale civil war in the south between the Muslim-dominated national government and an animist population.

Dozens of villages have been burned, women and children killed and crops destroyed in tribal skirmishes involving the non-Arab Muslim Fur tribe and marauding Arab nomads.

The conflict has been compounded by the availability of machine guns sold by fighting troops from Chad and Libya, a rise in banditry and the loss of arable land to encroaching deserts.

"It has been an appalling tragedy," a Western diplomat said. "There has been an enormous loss of life among the Fur. Thousands and thousands of cattle, goats and camels have been stolen or killed. Crops have been burned."

The area is far Western Darfur, Arabic for "home of the Fur."

About 1 million of Sudan's 22-million population belong to the Fur, one of the country's main tribes, indigenous to the Jabal Marrah mountains and members of the Muslim majority.

Western relief workers said more than 100 villages have been destroyed and between 2,000 and 3,000 people killed in the range was this year.

Of 180,000 displaced people, 15,000 desperately need food and shelter and 50,000 food only, relief workers say.

Many Fur farmers were unable to plant on schedule in June because of the hostilities.

"If the current lack of security in the countryside prevails, there is likely to be a prolonged food crisis in the affected areas," it predicted.

Every winter for hundreds of years, cattle-herding Baggara and other smaller nomadic Arab tribes interlarded on Fur farms as they trekked towards water and grazing lands to the south.

They fought brief battles, with minimal human losses. Differences were resolved in traditional peace councils after the fighting, with blood money paid for the victims and compensation for destroyed farms.

Drought in the mid-1980s, plus continuing desertification, reduced grazing lands as the Sahara pushed southwards, forcing Arab tribes to encroach even further on Fur areas.

Fighting between Chad and Libya, both of which regularly send soldiers into western Sudan, made vehicles readily available and brought machine guns onto the market.

Relief workers say the enmity has now seriously escalated.

Heavily armed Arab gangs of up to 1,000 in jeeps have pillaged Fur villages in the countryside, reports said.

Hundreds of Fur died in one raid in April. The government admitted to fewer than 400 deaths, but Khartoum newspapers reported more than 1,500.

Hannah Ahmed Ebreich, wife of a prominent Fur, said members of the tribe have no history of arming themselves but recently have been acquiring weapons to fight back.

Another Fur living in Khartoum, who refused to be identified, said his tribesmen already liquidated their savings, mostly in silver or gold jewelry, to deal with the drought.

Some Fur working in the Arab states of the Arabian Gulf have sent money home to help arm their relatives against the marauders, he said.

"It appears to be becoming a civil war," said the Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity under his embassy's regulations, "and the government has done nothing."

# Iran blamed for Kurds killed in Vienna

PARIS, July 17: (AP) The Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran today accused the Iranian government of responsibility in the slaying of the party's secretary general and two other Kurds last week in Vienna.

The party also announced that funeral services for Abdul Rahman Qassemolou, the secretary general, would take place Thursday at Pere Lachaise Cemetery, after a procession through the streets of Paris.

In a statement, the party's European headquarters in Paris said Qassemolou and

two other Kurds were negotiating last Thursday with emissaries of the Iranian government at Iran's request trying to find "a peaceful solution to the Kurdish problem in Iran" when the three were killed.

It said that it believed "the responsibility for this massacre falls to the regime of the Islamic Republic."

Iran had previously blamed the killings on Iran, while Iran said the attack was carried out by Iraq. Austrian police said Saturday they had no information about the identities

of the whereabouts of the assailants.

Besides Qassemolou, the others killed were Abdullah Ghaderi, the party's general representative in Europe and Fadil Rasoul, an Iraqi Kurd university professor with Austrian citizenship, the party statement said.

It said Austrian authorities had arrested Mohammed Jaafari Saharoodi, who was injured in the attack. The statement described him as the personal representative of Hashemi Rafsanjani, the powerful Speaker of the Iranian Parliament.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

### PLO complains

TUNIS, July 17: (Reuters) The PLO has protested to the United States over remarks by Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly in which he said a US-PLO dialogue had accomplished nothing.

Kelly told a congressional hearing last week that nothing had been achieved in seven months of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and that the dialogue need not continue indefinitely.

### Protest march

NICOSIA, July 17: (Reuters) Hundreds of Greek Cypriots, dodging United Nations cordons, marched into the buffer zone dividing Cyprus yesterday towards the village they fled in 1974 as Turkish troops advanced.

"The time has come for us to go back to our homes," an organiser told about 350 villagers staging the first of four marches this week to protest at the Turkish occupation of the northern third of Cyprus 15 years ago.

### 16 injured

ISTANBUL, July 17: (Reuters) At least 16 people were injured in a riot when relatives of left-wing prisoners battled guards outside an Istanbul jail with sticks and stones, Anatolian News Agency said.

It said fighting broke out outside Bayrampasa jail after hundreds of people, eager to see imprisoned relatives on the last day of a religious holiday, were told visits would be restricted to 40 people at a time for security reasons.

### Israeli message

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17: (Reuters) Israeli Interior Minister Arye Deri will meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a visit to Cairo beginning today, Israel radio said.

Deri, of the Jewish religious Shas Party, said he would give Mubarak a message from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir but gave no details of its contents.

Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, a former chief rabbi in Israel and former deputy chief rabbi in Egypt, will accompany Deri on visits to synagogues and Jewish cemeteries in Cairo.

### Summit support

TUNIS, July 17: (Reuters) The Arab League welcomed today the qualified support given by the world's leading industrialised countries for convening an international Middle East peace conference.

A league statement said: "It is a positive step that the seven leaders favoured holding the international conference, even if their position was framed in terms which clearly show that some parties have their own concepts about the conference."

"We hope it indicates the start of an evolution in the US stand and it no doubt contains a warning to Israel."

### Re-activate NAM

BELGRADE, July 17: (KUNA): Egypt and Yugoslavia have agreed to re-activate the Non-Aligned Movement, NAM, and called for forging "modern and effective means" to enable the organisation realise its objectives.

### Sales discussion

NICOSIA, July 17: (Reuters) An Iranian delegation has left for Moscow to discuss gas sales to the Soviet Union, one of several projects indicating a warming of relations between the two countries.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said today that the team led by Deputy Economy and Finance Minister Ali Majidi would discuss sales of two billion to three billion cubic metres of gas planned for next year.

### Sheikh Zayed supports

LONDON, July 17: (KUNA): President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan has urged the United States to understand the situation in the Middle East, realise its duties and shoulder its responsibility.

In an interview with Arabic language daily "Al Hayat", published here today Sheikh Zayed said that "time has come for Washington to realise this matter and that what we expect from the American administration and what a friend expects from a friend is not impossible."

### Formal request

KABUL, Afghanistan, July 17: (AP) The Afghan government said today it must have a formal letter from the US government requesting the release of an American photographer captured after entering the country

# Existing health service to be upgraded

## Hospitals, clinics expansion plan

THE director of the Planning and Follow-up Department at the Public Health Ministry Dr Khalifa Al Saqaabi has said that the health plan for the years to come will seek to achieve a development in the quality of health services.

Speaking to a local daily, he said that the upgrading of the

existing health service level could be achieved on a dual basis: the development of staff performance level and increase in the number of specialists and qualified personnel.

This included stepping up organised efforts to fight lethal infectious diseases responsible for the highest rate of mortality.

The official stressed that according to the outcome of the recent health survey, it has become incumbent to better address the treatment of high-blood-pressure causing disease, cardio-vascular problems, chest diseases, diabetes and other high risk ailments.

He called for bolstering

preliminary health care services, and the family medicine system at the various ministry clinics and medical centres as a means to improving the medical service level.

Saqaabi stressed the importance of developing work techniques at public and specialised hospitals, and further cultivating

educational programmes on health and food to ensure a steady rise in health awareness.

He said that the next plan would include the expansion of existing hospitals and construction of more poly-clinics, based on the outcome and recommendations of the recent health survey.



Hit, smash and run

The car pictured above was forced into a collision with another car by a hit and run fiend on the airport road, Saturday. The victim's name and nationality is yet unknown but police investigations are going on to identify the dead man and catch his killer. Photos by Ahmed Buri

# Positive response to private vehicle testing

## GTA to supervise inspections

THE recent decision issued by Ministry of the Interior to transfer the mission of car inspection to private garages under the supervision of the General Traffic Administration (GTA) has received positive response from garage owners.

The decision has been taken with the aim of reducing pressure on the GTA. Lt. Col. Essa Bu Rahma, director of the technical department at the GTA said and added that it is also designed to provide greater benefits to citizens by being provided with an update on the mechanical and electrical defects of their vehicles.

The Interior Ministry will grant licences to those workshops and garages who have prior licence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to practise this activity — undertaking technical inspection of cars.

Basically, these establishments will have to have all modern facilities such as pollution monitoring devices of car

exhausts, brake testers, electrical fault finders, fine-tuning engines, noise factors and related devices. These should be computerised to give precise feedback.

Owners of these garages should also have suitable sites with adequate parking for inspecting vehicles. A special office should be provided to the representative of the GTA who will complete procedures to renew the car books. All work undertaken by these garages will be supervised by the GTA. Any workshop violating the regulations issued by the GTA will have its licence revoked by Ministry of the Interior.

Some problems might appear in the initial stages of this project which is considered novel to Kuwait. Rahma said and added that these minor irritants will be smoothed in the process of upgrading these services. The pivotal problem might be related to the amount of money these

garages would charge without looking to public interests.

However, the official reiterated that those violating sections 38 to 52 of the Traffic Law could be liable to have their permits revoked. The supervision by police and traffic patrols will be enhanced to address this issue, Rahma added.

He added that the computer at the GTA's office in the workshop will be connected with all inspection machines of the workshop. A certificate on the situation of the car will be issued by the computer directly. GTA will conduct surprise checks of this certificate the official said.

He cautioned prospective buyers of cars from automobile trading houses to ensure that these cars are manufactured to endure the hot weather of Kuwait. He added that the GTA can refuse to provide licences for these cars if they do not meet Kuwaiti specifications — in which case the purchaser has the right to return cars to the sellers.

## Training for Kuwaitis in W. Germany

THE deputy director-general of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Humoud Al Mudaf has said that the authority agreed with the D.S.E. and G.T.Z. institutions in West Germany to train Kuwaitis in different training fields. He added that the two are government institutions and are specialised in the technical and technological co-operation with Third World.

Mudaf pointed out that the authority agreed with D.S.E. (specialised in training) to train 6 Kuwaiti trainees in different specialised courses in West Germany beside organising training courses in Kuwait. The authority had expanded talks with the German institution to evaluate the curriculum of the authority. He added that the authority will experiment with training some workers for the benefit of the private sector. The authority will offer the curriculum and materials for the trainees while the private sector will be responsible for their practical training. This experiment succeeded in West Germany and can be applied in Kuwait to offer Kuwaiti manpower to the private sector, he said.

He pointed out that the authority discussed with the German institutions proposals to modernise workshops and labs of the authority to obtain optimum returns from these facilities.

# KU decision to limit seats for girls deplored

THE decision by Kuwait University's Council to stress on the importance of lowering the admission rate of female students at university colleges has been deplored.

The university's council approved the admission policy recommending that male youths be encouraged to join scientific fields in order to enhance levels and to provide local manpower with the required manpower.

According to the articles of admission it was pointed out that the number of females currently joining the university is constantly increasing at a rate of 68 per cent during the past two years.

Due to the importance of this decision, and its reflections on a number of female university students, a local daily interviewed a number of female students to ascertain their reactions.

Lina Shihab Mustafa directed her criticism at university officials by stating that the decision showed a total lack of sensitivity and is an unfair decision which will eventually pose problems for aspiring females. She commented that the application of this decision will compel many females to study abroad — causing untold hardship. She added that in the present era women are considered to have equal rights with men in terms of education and employment.

The new university decision will affect the local social life of female students, she said, and added that she thanked Allah that she was accepted at the university and that if the time travelled backward and she wasn't accepted at the university it would be very hard for her to think about completing her college education away from her family.

Amal Sameeh Hijazi, said that the new policy approved by the university council has positive and negative characteristics represented in taking serious steps towards decreasing female admission on whom they still impose old traditions. In a sense they dictate that women's final kingdom is to

be at their future homes with their husbands and children. She said that most male youths who just completed their secondary education like to travel abroad in order to complete their college education, gain new experiences and be exposed to other traditions.

The new decision will now compel male youths to remain with their families and to lessen their interest in travelling abroad. She pointed out the new policy represents discrimination between both sexes. It prefers males to females making the latter lose their confidence and self esteem.

Nida' Al Shihwan described the decision of the university council as unfair as it will expose many females to mistreatment by allowing low grade point average male students into the university. She said that a male student who obtained a 60 per cent grade point average can't be put into the same category with a female student with 80 per cent average. Logical thinking requires female students to have the opportunity to choose the field they want at any college. She pointed out that females are quite capable of serving the country along with males.

Ayyam Saadi Abdul Kareem said that the decision was approved by the university council due to the increasing number of female students. She added that females should not be deprived from serving society and proving themselves. She pointed out that it is difficult for females to develop themselves in a different society if they were forced to study abroad. She proposed that admission rules should be identical for both sexes.

Hanadi Al Dhawahi had never heard of the university decision until the time she was interviewed, and she was astonished and started describing it as unfair and said that it will lead to negative results. She said outstanding students of both sexes should be honoured by the government and should be given every opportunity and encouragement to go on with their education.

## Civil ID cards in ten days

THE director-general of the Public Authority for Civil Information Faisal Al Shaiji has said that the authority charges no fees on citizens wishing to substitute their old ID cards for the newly designed ones.

Speaking to a local newspaper, he said that only expatriates wishing to exchange their ID cards before these had legally expired with new ones would be charged.

He pointed out the authority received a total of 50,000 envelopes submitted by house maids or their equivalents on a monthly basis, at a daily average of 1,500 envelopes.

The authority's special staff would go around collecting the envelopes deposited in its boxes on a daily basis, and applicants could claim their renewed or new ID cards ten days after depositing the envelope in the box, Shaiji said.

He added that the new card is smaller in size and similar to the certificate of nationality for Kuwaitis, but is still the same blue colour for non-Kuwaitis.

The new card for non-Kuwaitis contains information on the bearer's sponsor, civil number and passport number for GCC citizens, and that special security anti-tampering procedures were taken with the new card such as the protrudent seal.

Shaiji added that people could direct their queries to this information service centre and learn the date and the exact hour they could collect their cards, the documents they need to present, the information needed to process the card, documents on the expiry of work permit validity for non-Kuwaitis and others.

Shaiji urged the public to call the numbers 2658520 up to 2658529, from 7.30 to 1.30 and from 4.45 to 8 in the evening except on Thursdays

# Embezzlement checks Fraud by co-op staff curtailed

PRACTICALLY every two months some staff member of a co-operative society is fired for being found guilty of embezzlement.

The Kuwait Union of Co-operative Societies in co-operation with relevant authorities carries out daily inspections of various co-operative societies to uncover embezzlement, Ali Salem Bu Hadideh, chairman of the Kuwait Union of Co-operative Societies said.

The reason for the difference in price of certain items at some co-operative societies is due to the fact that these items are luxury goods bought from different sources.

Pricing priority of purchases made for the societies is given to GCC and national products. There is no intention on the union's part to allocate special co-ops for such products, Hadideh said.

He added that the existing competition between the co-ops and popular markets have benefited consumers. This prompted co-ops to reconsider their existing situation and further develop their services in the best interest of the consumers.

The union is concerned with quality and validity of foodstuffs displayed at the co-ops; financial matters are the concern of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. However, the co-op's board of directors would be called to account in cases of insufficient financial coverage or manipulation of data.

There is no intent to build a new premises for the union's headquarters, Hadideh said, but urged the government to reduce co-operatives or rentals of related shops.



Children at summer clubs

A number of children practicing their art at one of the summer clubs. There are about 43 summer clubs open for students, boys and girls where they can practice their hobbies. Many activities are offered including cultural, scientific, sports, computer and many others. The summer clubs open for two months during the students summer vacation.

# Wheat co-operative farm project planned

THE chairman of Abdali Agricultural Co-operative Society Sheikh Mubarak Sabah Al Naser Al Sabah has said that the co-operative is planning to carry out a number of agricultural and co-operative projects in co-operation with some other agricultural societies. He added that this co-operative completed studies on five vital projects in co-operation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

The first project envisaged is to establish a co-operative farm to

produce wheat on an area of 1,500 hectares. The farm will produce about 7,000 tonnes of fodder and about 5,000 tonnes of wheat a year. The project also includes building of stores, some administrative units and workshops to maintain and repair equipment. The project is expected to be completed in two years, he said.

He added that the second project is to afford the two sides of Mutlaa-Abdali road (75

kilometres long) to protect the agricultural areas, installations and buildings at the road from sandstorms including erosion of soil. Sheikh Mubarak added that the third project is to establish a centre for sorting and grading agricultural products of Abdali farms. The project will save time and effort of farmers to bring their products to the local markets. The project will consist of cooling stores, normal stores and equipment for sorting out and packing products, he said.

Sheikh Mubarak pointed out that the fourth project will aim at building three branches for the co-operative to market the agricultural products of Abdali farms. These are to be constructed in Jahra, Hawalli and Capital governorates. Wafra co-operative society will build similar branches in Ahmadi and Farwaniya for the same purpose. This will help farmers to market their products and to expand the markets which will also reduce the costs of marketing.

# KAC takes largest slice of travel market

A LOCAL daily has interviewed a number of travel office managers to discuss matters relating to the passenger rush during the summer and related seasonal crowding.

Fuad Jazzar, the director-general of a travel office in Cairo and London said that passenger crowds characterised the summer rush for flights bound for certain areas in Egypt, such as southern Sinai, Alexandria, Taba and others, stressing that the primary concern of his office is to organise travel to touristic sites and attractions in the Egyptian countryside and suburbs.

Visitors to Egypt are better advised to rent their flats through travel agencies, to avoid falling prey to brokers and go-betweens Jazzar added.

## Share

Mahrous Hasanain, another travel agency manager, said that the passenger crowds for this year were seen on flights bound to Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Turkey, Austria, Germany, Britain, France and Spain, and that most passengers wanted to stay in the second class hotels.

He added that KAC witnessed the largest share of passenger crowds, the reason being its regular flights to most countries of the world, high-class service level and punctuality.

Another travel agency director Sameer Maawad said that the most frequent problems encountered by the agency was clients arguing about the airfares, repeated confirmation and cancellation of flight reservations, and over-occupying rooms at hotels, which causes problems with the hotel management.

Ali Al Jassam a client said that airfares for this season were very moderate and the level of services satisfactory, except for some carrier agents who fail to meet their work obligations towards clients travelling to Cairo.

He said the availability of tourist guides is a good idea, and it will help introduce visitors to the famous touristic attractions in the country and historical spots.

Khalaf Salem Mulaih said that he preferred to travel by car for economic reasons. He added that so far he has had no trouble on his journey because he checks his car to ensure that it is in perfect working condition before he sets off.

On Adel said that ticket prices were high and clients had a hard time trying to figure out which of the travel agencies provided better services to its clients.

# Drug smuggling attempt foiled

AN attempt to smuggle a large quantity of narcotics into Kuwait has been foiled by customs officials of the Public Customs Authority, the deputy director-general of the authority, Mohammad Al Refai said.

Refai said that the apprehended smuggler of Arab origin was considered a dangerous element and had been kept under high-level surveillance.

On his arrival at Kuwait International Airport, he was subjected to a thorough customs check of his personal effects which resulted in unearthing the contraband, which included hashish and heroin.

Investigations are under progress and no further details have been disclosed. Refai stressed that all authorities are on full alert to foil any attempts to smuggle narcotics and related contraband into the country and called for the co-operation of citizens and expatriates to eradicate this deadly scourge. Children should be thoroughly protected from this menace, Refai said. He added that parents must ensure that they keep a sharp eye out for drug addiction among their children.

The penalties for addicts in Kuwait is severe, Refai added.

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# Scholarship priority to 1989 school graduates

KUWAITI students who have obtained their Secondary School Certificates this year will be granted priority for scholarships to study abroad. Graduates of previous years will be granted scholarships if there is a surplus of seats.

Students sent abroad on scholarships granted by the Ministry of Higher Education are for study in majors presently not offered by Kuwait University except medicine and engineering as the state needs a large number

of these professionals, Abdulla Al Sania, director of the scholarships department at the Ministry of Higher Education said.

The official pointed out that the ministry has a list of recognised universities in the world and is not responsible for any student who obtains a degree from an unaccredited university. There are some considerations that the ministry looks into in cases of those students who study in the USA at their expense and want to obtain scholarships or continue their studies at the cost of the government in Kuwait.

He added that the state is responsible for taking care of Kuwaiti students sent abroad on scholarships. All expenses, including tuition, boarding and lodging, travelling expenses and other incidental are borne by the state. Progress reports on the performance of these students are regularly received by the authorities, he added.

Sania advised parents of these students not to provide their children with extra additional funds.

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# Touristic sites secure, says official

Vandals will be penalised

THE touristic projects in Kuwait enjoys full security protection, a senior official announced. The official said that incidents that take place at some touristic sites, particularly the waterfront project, are exaggerated. He said that the Interior Ministry provides full security protection for the sites. He said that there are officers and policemen in the touristic projects for this purpose and the Coast Guard also help to maintain order.

But the official said that it is very difficult to avoid hoax calls. Referring to a hoax call sent to the Entertainment City recently which resulted in the evacuation of the city the official said we have to take such calls seriously so as not to endanger the lives of people. The man responsible for the call was later arrested and sentenced to five years imprisonment. The official said that there are means to detect such calls.

The official called upon citizens and expatriates to act like guards for the country's utilities and services including the touristic sites. He said that all safety and civil defence requirements are available in the major touristic sites in the country and employees are trained to use some of them. The official stressed that persons who intentionally damage public properties at the touristic sites will be punished. Many such cases are referred to the police and

later to the courts.

He added that strict rules are applied to such violations adding that education and awareness must be used with the people.

The official admitted the presence of some intentional damage, but said that it is limited. He attributed this to anti-social elements. He said that securitymen are permanently present in the major touristic sites.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Amiri audience

KUWAIT, July 17, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir today received His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Sheikh Jaber Al Ali.

### Premier's audience

KUWAIT, July 17, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today received in audience Defence and acting Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber, Communications and acting Public Works Minister Abdullah Al Shaban who was accompanied by Public Works Undersecretary Mohammed Al Sanaa and Chief Roads Engineer Jassem Al Issa and some roads engineers at the Public Works Ministry.

Later, Sheikh Saad received State Minister for Services Affairs Issa Al Mazidi, Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi and Board Chairman of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) Ahmed Al Mishari.

HH also received a number of citizens at the public diwan.

### Hajis healthy

SECRETARY of the medical mission accompanying the haj caravans from Kuwait, Ibrahim Al Mudaf said that all pilgrims from Kuwait are in good health. Speaking telephonically from Makkah, he said that the mission will leave Saudi Arabia today morning and is expected to arrive in Kuwait tomorrow evening.

He said that he has no information about an accident with a Kuwaiti pilgrim caravan which took place five days ago while the pilgrims were returning from Makkah to Kuwait. It was reported that one man died and several others were injured. Mudaf said that the mission gets no news about the caravans after leaving Makkah.

Meanwhile, pilgrims from Kuwait started returning back from the holy lands two days ago. They praised the arrangements taken by the Saudi authorities during this haj and also praised the assistance offered by the government of Kuwait.

### Eid sacrifice

JEDDAH, July 17, (KUNA): A Pakistani plane left Jeddah yesterday carrying 2,710 heads of sacrificial sheep to Peshawar. The meat will be distributed to the Afghan refugees there, according to the Saudi Press Agency. This will raise the number of heads of slaughtered sheep so far sent to Pakistan to 16,562.

## Kuwait to forge ahead with expense rationalisation

WELL-INFORMED sources said today that the government is determined to forge ahead with its expenditure rationalisation policy in all ministries and government establishments. But the sources added that the rationalisation will not be applied to basic services like education, housing, health and electricity. The sources added that the government is also willing to provide all necessities to the public in the light of the policy recently approved by the Council of Ministers.

The sources said that HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah will hold a series of meetings this week with a number of senior officials responsible for public services. Sheikh Saad will discuss with them the various efforts being undertaken to upgrade the level of public services being offered to the public.

## Leaking Maltese tanker emptied off UAE coast

DU DHABI, July 17, (AP): Small barges emptied the oil cargo of a damaged tanker which has been leaking oil in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, shipping executives reported today. The Maltese-registered tanker Puppy was spotted while anchored about 50 miles (80 km) off the United Arab Emirates port of Ras Fakkan. The 32,000-ton tanker, operated by the Gen-based Acomar Services Maritimes, had now been allowed entry to UAE ports for repairs, said the executives who spoke on condition they not be named.

The tanker's cargo holds were holed in a collision in the Indian Ocean on June 28 with the bulk carrier Quince. It had been denied entry to the UAE ports and earlier to the Indian port of Bombay because it was leaking oil. The Quince is operated by a Hong Kong firm.

### Oil spill

The 32,000-ton tanker was carrying an oil shipment from Egypt to Singapore when the collision occurred 700 miles (1,000 kms) southwest of Bombay.

The shipping sources were unable to determine the amount of oil recovered in the trans-

shipment and how much was spilled, but sources earlier estimated the leakage at 5,500 tons into the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea.

The amount would be equal to 1.6 million US gallons, with about 1.2 million of it believed lost closer to Bombay. Fears have been expressed about an oil slick still headed for the Indian coast at Kerala.

The shipping executives, who spoke on condition they not be named, said that the oil leaked since the Puppy anchored off Khor Fakkan, was evaporating and the threat of an oil slick hitting the UAE coastline had eased.



Konstantin Kochetov with Major General Jaber Al Khaled Al Sabah upon his arrival at Kuwait airport.

## Soviet military delegation arrives

No new agreements: Kochetov

KUWAIT, July 17, (KUNA): Soviet Deputy Defence Minister Konstantin Kochetov arrived here today leading a military delegation for a four-day official visit to the country. The delegation was greeted at the airport by Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Jaber Al Khaled Al Sabah, the Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait and senior Army officers.

Kochetov and the accompanying delegation are scheduled to meet tomorrow morning with Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Jaber Al Khaled Al Sabah.

While here, the Soviet delegation will visit a number of Army

encampments. The Soviet official is accompanied by a military delegation that groups ranking officials of the Soviet Defence Ministry.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency - before - departure, Kochetov, hailed the Kuwaiti policy on the international and regional levels, particularly toward the Palestinian crisis and the situation in the Gulf region.

The official said that the military co-operation between his country and Kuwait is an extension to the bilateral relations between the two countries and pointed out that this co-operation is successfully developing.

Kochetov expressed belief

that there are spheres in the military relations that can be developed and said that the Kuwaiti side is also having the same view.

He added that the aim of his visit to Kuwait is to bolster military co-operation between the two countries, but he made it clear that no new military agreements would be signed during the visit and pointed out that there are standing agreements between the two countries that are being implemented as scheduled within the framework of the comprehensive bilateral co-operation.

The visit by General Kochetov to Kuwait is the first of its kind to be held by a ranking military official.

## AGFUND to establish centre for Arab women

MANAMA, July 17, (GNA): The Arab Gulf Aid Fund (AGFUND) for the United Nations Development Organisation in co-operation with a number of international organisations, is planning to establish the first Arab centre for training women.

Preparations are under way to establish the centre. Arrangements for finding finances, the country to host the centre and a full detailed working plan for the centre, are currently under study. The practical steps for the establishment of the centre are expected to commence by the end of this year.

### Contact

The centre aims at providing training to Arab women in general and those working in the childhood and motherhood centres in particular. This is in order to allow Arab women to effectively contribute to comprehensive development plans. The centre will also carry out research studies to determine the priority of its training programme and the sections that will be covered by the training. It will also evaluate the previous training programmes offered to Arab women in addition to contacting the various training centres in the Arab world to determine in order to co-ordinate with them.

The centre will modernise the means and methods of training for women. It will provide training to various sections of Arab women starting with housewives and ending with senior officials responsible for working out policies concerning the development of the human resources.

The centre will also provide basic information about the standings of women within their respective families and in society. It will also provide basic indicators about the educational, health and cultural aspects of Arab women.

مكتبة الجولف

Renewal charges stay

## Permanent residence issue not decided yet: Wohaib

TILL the very present, there is no firm official decision on the long-talked about granting of permanent residences to outstanding Arab expatriates who have served Kuwait for a fairly good number of years, Col Ahmad Al Wohaib, director-general of immigration said.

The official categorically denied that there is a ban on issuing visit visas to holders of Palestinian travel documents adding that they are treated equally like others provided they fulfill the required conditions. He said that this treatment is also given to all holders of travel documents of any kind.

Asked about what happens to holders of Palestinian travel documents when their services are terminated, he said that they are treated like others and will be sent back to the country that issued them the document. He added that in case that country refuses, we will hold contacts with them to seek some form of solution.

The department grants a period of two months to persons to transfer the residence from an old to a new passport and no fines will be collected during this period. He added that persons who get their passports changed while abroad can come back to Kuwait normally as they will be given visit visas to enter the country and should subsequently call on the immigration department within a week to get their residence transferred to the new passport.

### Salary specifications

GCC citizens are treated like Kuwaitis and can bring their parents to live with them in Kuwait.

Government employees who obtain less than KD450 per month and have permission to work as part timers in the evening which enables them to get more than KD450 per month are still not eligible to bring their wives and children on dependent visas simply because the part time salary is not counted.

He added that there is no change in obtaining dependent visas for wives and children. Government employees must get a monthly salary of KD450 and private sector employees a monthly salary of KD600.

The department at present grants residence for a period of five years for government employees and has no objection in granting a similar period for private sector employees, provided the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour agrees.

The official said that there is no intention to abolish the charges obtained for renewal of the

residence which is KD10 per year adding that the department also has no plans to increase or decrease the amount. These renewal charges do not apply to children who are on the passport of either parent.

He said that the law totally prohibits the extension of visit visas. New visas can be issued and the person is required to leave Kuwait at the expiry of the visit visa and may come back on a new visa. He emphasised that visit visas cannot be transferred into work permits while the person is still in Kuwait. They have to leave and can come back on the new work permit, he added. The only exceptions are some rare specialisations who are needed by the country like teachers and engineers. He hinted that visit visas may not be granted to parents in case they are very old in age on the basis they may be ill, but added that they have no restrictions in accepting applications for such people and discussing it.

Asked about pre-conditions for family visit visas, he said there are no conditions except salary - without specifying.

Wohaib said that children of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis can get their residences transferred to their mothers provided the husband agrees. Their residences will be renewed without any obstacle. But this does not apply to the husband as he cannot have his residence on his Kuwaiti wife. This is because dependent visa does not allow its holder to take jobs in Kuwait and thus the husband will be considered a violator. But he said that this case may be looked into if the husband reaches 60 years of age.

He said that there are no problems in transferring the residence from a damaged passport onto a new one, provided a letter is supplied by the embassy. He called upon persons facing such problems to call on him personally at his office.

### Transfers

Wohaib added that there are no pre-conditions needed to transfer the residences of girls who marry into dependent visas on their husbands. The salary is no consideration as long as the husband is legally staying and working in Kuwait. There have been rumours that residences of such girls cannot be transferred to their husbands if the husbands do not fulfil the residence requirements - a monthly salary of KD450 in the government and KD600 in the private sector. Wohaib denied this.

Commenting on a case of a man who has been staying in

Kuwait illegally for four years and before that had a private sector residence, Wohaib said that he will first have to take permission from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and if it agrees, he has to come to the Immigration Department and pay the fines (KD2 per day).

In case of a compromise for extenuating circumstances, he may be referred to the court.

He said that expatriates who have their children studying abroad and are forced to stay for over six months and have valid residence can apply for permission to stay outside Kuwait. They have to obtain a certificate from the institution of study, attest it from Kuwait embassy in that country and then from Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kuwait and later apply to the concerned immigration department in any of the four governorates.

The official said that boys who reach 21 years of age, even if they are studying abroad, cannot get their residence permits renewed. This also applies to males who attain the age of 21 and are still in Kuwait. Their residence permits will have to be changed to working visas. However, this does not apply to students studying at Kuwait University or the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. This rule also does not apply to females who can get this benefit so long as their sponsors (parents) continue to legally live in the country.

Wohaib said that there is no objection in transferring the residence of parents who have been staying legally in Kuwait to those of their children provided that the children are staying legally and earn enough to maintain their parents. This case particularly applies to parents who have been working in Kuwait and have retired.

Speaking about cancelling the residence of maids who leave for their countries for long periods and do not come back, he said that the residences of such cases are cancelled only after it is proved that the maids have been outside Kuwait for over six months.

He said that the rules do not grant giving a dependent residence to the mother of an employee in Kuwait even if she is ill, because the dependent visa rules apply only to wives and children. About the activities of the immigration departments in the four governorates, he said that these departments complete almost 4,000 different applications every day, adding that each application is completed at present in 15 minutes.

## Memories revived at Women's Souk

Popular goods at low prices

By Ali Al Masoodi

A LARGE number of citizens interviewed by Al Seyassah described Souq Wajif (women's market) as the best place to entertain oneself and to revive memories.

They stated that Souq Wajif represents Kuwait's most important old feature and that civilisation has crawled at a snail's pace towards it and put it under a closed siege of high-rises and newly-built commercial markets.

Souq Wajif is still standing proud and remains unaffected by modernisation. It has remained with its distinguished character since years, one of the senior citizens said.

A number of interviewed citizens stressed that officials have the right to prevent the destruction of Souq Wajif because it represents a historical period of Kuwait and is a part of memories which should not be erased by foreign civilisations. They stated that government authorities must provide Souq Wajif with the needed care so it will stay the bright picture of Kuwait's past.

Al Seyassah toured Souq Wajif during the Eid Al Adha holidays and heard the views of patrons, and merchants there.

### Reasonable

Adel Ahmad said that Souq Wajif is one of Kuwait's most distinguished markets and that he enjoys shopping there because it contains everything at adequate prices.

He stressed that Souq Wajif requires more care and renovation. Officials must put more efforts in keeping it clean by providing it with garbage containers. He said that restaurants at the souq are unclean and throw all of their trash into the street. He said that Souq Wajif is an old feature of Kuwait's past therefore it should be respected.

Hammad Mohammed stated that Souq Wajif should be compelled to prevent the encroachment of sand and dust during



Souq Wajif, still a nice place to browse.

dusty seasons, labourers should be distributed all over to clean the place. He pointed out that the Souq faces negligence of officials despite its historical value. More care should be taken to preserve the old picture of Kuwait in order to put the market in a more representative picture to tourists who mostly like to shop at old markets. He added that people in Kuwait particularly those who lived in former Kuwait consider Souq Wajif as a proud figure and hope for it to stay. They feel a lot of pain when seeing it neglected in some areas.

Um Asaad, one of the pedlars at Souq Wajif said that she is very comfortable there and wishes that the market will remain the same, but she added that some things need to be looked after. She pointed out that the weather is hot and unbearable without air-conditioning. She hopes that Souq Wajif will be expanded one

of these days and wished that officials would allow her to sell things alongside souq streets.

On the other hand, Um Jassem said that Souq Wajif is good in its current condition and added that it is an excellent popular market for all shoppers. Um Jassem sells all kinds of simple things at adequate prices. She wondered whether the roof of Souq Wajif will stay for long because it requires renovation. She said that a windy storm which occurred not too long ago made everybody afraid that the roof might cave in on top of their heads.

Abbas Kazem said that Souq Wajif contains popular goods which sell at cheap prices, therefore most shoppers who come to it are of the lower level. He added that most pedlars there are good and fair when dealing with customers.

## 7 years for robbery, arson

THE Criminal Court sentenced two men to 7 years imprisonment each with hard labour for breaking into a shop dealing in arms and then setting it on fire and also damaging a boutique.

The court was told that the two carried out their robbery during a dusty night and managed to steal a number of rifles and bullets from the shop. One eye witness who saw the incident said that he only saw two persons but because it was night and dusty he couldn't see their faces clearly. After making their investigations, the detectives arrested the two accused. A search of their houses revealed the stolen guns and bullets. During interrogation the two men confessed carrying out the robbery and stealing the rifles.

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

MONEY is like a sixth sense without which you cannot make a complete use of the other five — W. Somerset Maugham, English writer (1874-1965)

## Mistrust dams Indo-Pak thaw

### No quick-fix answer

A BRIEF visit to Pakistan by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi fully bore out his host Benazir Bhutto's concluding remark that there is "no quick-fix answer" to the deep-seated mistrust between the two countries.

Last night Gandhi made a strong appeal for a new era of friendship and co-operation to replace the hostility of the past.

Then this morning, at a joint news conference marked by the hostility of many of the reporters' questions, he publicly snubbed the Pakistani prime minister.

Asked about Pakistan's controversial nuclear programme, Gandhi said it was one of India's main concerns.

Then he added: "Pakistan's programme is entirely under military control, it is not open like our programme... which can be discussed in parliament."

Bhutto, sitting beside him, was visibly taken aback but quickly interjected:

"I would like to take this opportunity to assure the Indian prime minister that our nuclear programme is not under military control. The government is seized of the matter."

The issue is doubly sensitive. The military has ruled Pakistan for more than half its existence since 1947 and many analysts were surprised the armed forces allowed Bhutto to take office after she was elected last November without a substantial majority.

Many Pakistanis are convinced the Army has at the very least an effective veto in foreign and defence matters. Bhutto, 36, insists she is fully in control.

The nuclear programme itself has threatened the flow of US aid to Pakistan. Both Bhutto and her predecessor, military ruler General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, promised repeatedly that it was for energy alone, and not for making nuclear weapons.

India, which exploded its own nuclear device in 1974, makes no secret of the fact that it does not believe them.

The two countries have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947 and the bulk of their armed forces are still facing each other across the frontier. Trade is negligible and human contacts highly restricted.

Whether the incident interrupts the steady, if extremely slow, rapprochement between south Asia's main military powers since Bhutto's election remains to be seen.

Bhutto seemed to shrug off the incident in her final answer a few minutes later.

"You must appreciate that there is a tremendous backlog of problems and India and Pakistan need to chip away at this backlog," she said. "It would not be fair to expect all the problems to be solved overnight. There's no quick-fix answer."

But she added: "I feel that both countries have the determination to go on pursuing the search for peace."

The search continued after Gandhi's departure today when four committees on trade, tourism, economic co-operation and education and culture met in Islamabad.

In banquet speeches last night, it was Gandhi who was the more fulsome.

"Let us remove the fear that has permeated our relationship. Let us remove all hatred. Let us work together in peace and friendship," he said.

But the contentious issues quickly resurfaced at today's news conference.

Bhutto denied charges that Pakistan was sponsoring terrorism in Indian Punjab, Gandhi that India was seeking to bully its neighbours.

Differences over the divided Himalayan state of Kashmir were brought into the open. Gandhi again ruled out the possibility of a plebiscite to determine its future. Bhutto acknowledged they had different positions.

Gandhi denied that India was involved in an arms build-up, saying it spent only four per cent of its gross national product on weapons, while Pakistan spent eight per cent.

## OLIVER NORTH DOES COMMUNITY SERVICE

LISTEN UP, KIDS — FIRST, DON'T GET CAUGHT... IF CAUGHT, DON'T ADMIT GUILT... AND IF FOUND GUILTY, SAY IT WAS SOMEONE ELSE'S IDEA



Beijing in limbo since crackdown

## Fear under summer sun

MARTIAL law has not altered the sleepy summer rhythms of this dusty capital. A hot sun hypnotizes the 10 million residents into slow motion and soldiers droop under their umbrellas.

Their eyes half shut, they play idly with the safety catches on their automatic rifles. It is possible to catch them napping, stocking feet protruding from the windows of parked Army jeeps.

Some Beijing residents stroll up boldly, ask where the soldiers are from and offer soda pop.

But despite appearances, the city has not returned to normal since troops killed or injured hundreds of possibly thousands of civilians in suppressing a pro-democracy movement last month.

Arrests continue in a crackdown on students who led protests that jammed Tiananmen Square in Beijing with thousands of unarmed civilians demanding new freedoms and an end to official corruption.

In the current climate, any Chinese who even appears suspicious may be led away to be questioned, beaten and released.

A book store where liberals used to meet has been shut. The latest issue of a major magazine has been halted at the post office because of an article that censors deemed harmful. Authorities have banned the sale of foreign books and magazines in hotels and cut off satellite reception of foreign broadcasts.

Books by scholars now on police wanted lists have been banned. Cultural Ministry workers have raided private book stores to seize copies.

Many Chinese pass these days fearing punishment because of the government's harsh new policy emphasising class struggle and the need to stamp out Western-style liberalism.

"I invited you to come to our home for lunch and we bought beer and things to make dumplings, but I'm sorry, you can't come," a Chinese intellectual said with embarrassment as he met a Western friend recently.



Elderly women pray silently during Catholic services in Beijing's Northern Cathedral. Many aspects of city life appear to be returning to normal but few residents now dare to speak openly about the crackdown last month. (Reuters wirephoto)

"They said foreigners should not come to our homes," he explained. Even meeting a Westerner in public made him fearful, and he cast quick, nervous glances around him.

"Things will get better, let's wait a few months," he said before disappearing into a crowd.

Many Chinese have stopped answering their telephones and few are willing to talk to foreigners.

"It's like the cultural revolution," said a European reporter who covered China during the extreme leftist upheaval of 1966-76, when any contact between Chinese and foreigners was discouraged or prohibited.

The authorities assure that life is normal in Beijing. But when asked about new restrictions, govern-

ment spokesman Yuan Mu said they were for a foreigners' own protection.

"There are so many Chinese and you don't know who is good and who is bad. It is not written on their foreheads," he said.

Across Beijing, hundreds of thousands of teachers, doctors, journalists and factory workers who cheered or joined in the seven-week-long protests face investigation and ideological re-education.

Most will not be arrested, said one Chinese source who declined identification, but they will spend tense weeks as Communist officials at their work units examine their cases.

At a minimum they will be required to acknowledge the error of their ways, the source said. Political education already has begun for entire work groups, protesters and bystanders alike.

## China massacre a blow to Tibetan struggle

CHINA'S suppression of a pro-democracy uprising has dimmed hopes of Tibetan independence among 6 million exiles living apart from their high mountain homeland.

"What happened in China will not help the Tibetan struggle in any way," said Lhasang Tsering, the chief of the Tibetan Youth Congress, one of the most radical exile groups. "Now freedom will not come but it must be earned."

The Youth Congress is based in Dharmasala, a Tibetan refugee settlement perched in the Himalayan foothills of North India.

In 1959, the first of Dharmasala's 7,000 settlers fled Tibet with their spiritual and temporal leader, the Dalai Lama, when an anti-Chinese uprising was crushed by the occupation Army.

"For 30 years we have been speaking of Chinese atrocities," said Sonam Topgyal, a spokesman for the Tibetan government-in-exile in Dharmasala. "If China is capable of killing their own people, surely they will not hesitate to show any mercy on the Tibetans."

Hundreds and possibly thousands of unarmed civilians were killed on June 3-4 when Chinese troops used guns and tanks to clear Beijing's Tiananmen Square of pro-democracy demonstrators.

"We lost an opportunity (to win independence)," said Rinzen Dolkar, a Tibetan exile who runs a cafe

in Dharmasala.

Chinese troops and police have crushed several pro-independence demonstrations in Tibet, a remote mountain region on China's southern border that is known for its rich farmland.

Developments in China were not well received by many in the Tibetan exile community, estimated at 6 million world-wide.

Some claim as many as 800 people died during the latest Chinese crackdown on their own independence movement in Lhasa, capital of Tibet. The Chinese rulers put the toll at 16 dead from the unrest last March 5.

But the independence movement has remained largely peaceful under the guidance of the Dalai Lama, who advocates non-violence and negotiations in a bid for Tibetan independence.

Tibetan natives are mainly of Mongolian stock, speak their own language and largely follow a form of Buddhism in which they revere the Dalai Lama. Until the Chinese suppressed religion in the 1960s, as much as a sixth of the male population were Lamaist monks.

Many Tibetan exiles maintain that their homeland was an independent nation, noting the independent Tibetan kingdom that flourished as early as the 7th century.

China, on the other hand, has claimed the region

as a vital part of its territory for the past seven centuries.

The high, arid plateau came under Mongol influence from the 13th to the 18th centuries when it fell under nominal Chinese control.

It was not until 1911 that Tibet reasserted its independence, which it maintained until China invaded in 1950.

"China will not loosen its grip over Tibet because of its military importance. Also, China desperately needs land for its bursting population," said Jampa Dharmton, religious adviser to the government-in-exile.

China has not responded to the Dalai Lama's recent offers of compromise — allowing China to handle Tibet's foreign and defence affairs in return for independence.

But a senior official of the Tibetan government-in-exile, speaking on condition of anonymity, said: "I have my doubts about non-violent methods with the Chinese."

Dawa Norbu, an expert at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, said the Dalai Lama should now ask Tibetans in Lhasa to stage more demonstrations so that the Chinese will have "no option but to hold talks."

The most militant is the Tibetan Youth Congress led by the 35-year-old Tsering, a former guerrilla who claims 10,000 followers, mostly in India.

## Tea for two

### Trouble brews in S. Africa

A 45-MINUTE chat between Nelson Mandela and President P.W. Botha has thrown government and anti-apartheid forces off balance as they try to adjust to the changes the event has made in their long-standing policies.

The meeting between the imprisoned African National Congress leader and the retiring president on July 5 in Cape Town is unprecedented. It does not fit with either side's position on the conditions which would have to be met before such a meeting could be imagined.

The exiled ANC described the meeting as a publicity stunt but withheld further comment as praise poured in from other anti-apartheid groups.

It may be that the 73-year-old Botha, facing forced retirement at the hands of the National Party that he controlled for 10 years, gave history a push just to spite his designated successor picked over his wishes.

The heir apparent, F.W. de Klerk, has not commented on the meeting, and the government seems to be scrambling to explain it without losing too many votes to the white right-wing in the September parliamentary elections.

Apparently preparing the groundwork for Mandela's release, the government is transforming its portrayal of him from that of a violent revolutionary to a statesman worthy of negotiation with the nation's white leaders.

**Ambiguity**  
Ambiguity extends even to Mandela, who turns 71 on July 18. He insists he has not changed his views during 27 years in prison. He has not met the government's demand for an outright renunciation of violence and he continues to call for the removal of a ban on the exiled ANC.

But Mandela, in a statement released by prison services a week after he met Botha, said, "I only would like to contribute to the creation of the climate which would promote peace in South Africa."

Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, who arranged and attended the meeting at Botha's official residence, first described it as "a courtesy visit." A week later he declared it "a breakthrough."

Foreign Minister Pik Botha, mindful of the need to improve South Africa's image abroad, called it "an event of the utmost historic importance."

Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe, aware of the danger of startling white voters before the elections, said the meeting was "part of the broader process of preparing the groundwork for future negotiations."

Only the extreme-right, pro-apartheid Conservative Party has made its position crystal clear. Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht attacked the government for talking to the ANC and said its "attempt to enhance Mandela's status to that of a folk hero is transparent and will not work."

Mandela's words have been read on government-run television and radio. His picture, which cannot be published legally, has been printed in major newspapers, whose editors believe they will not be prosecuted.

Pro-government news media presented Mandela's commitment to peace as a dramatic change. But it is new in South Africa only because Mandela's views have for so long been suppressed.

The policy of the ANC and most sympathetic anti-apartheid groups has been that no negotiations with the government are possible until Mandela is freed. Yet the meeting and Mandela's statement can be interpreted as indicating Mandela has already begun a form of negotiation.

First reactions from Mandela's wife, Winnie, and the Rev. Frank Chikane, South African Council of Churches general secretary, suggested Mandela may have been forced into the meeting or been unaware of its implications.

Mrs Mandela and Chikane reversed course after Mandela's statement, saying the discussions were a positive development rather than a government ploy.

ANC spokesman Tom Sebina said in Lusaka, Zambia, "it would be wrong for anybody to believe that the meeting signified the start of negotiations between the black people of South Africa and the National Party government."

He did not react to Mandela's statement, but his comment contained an important shift. He referred to the "government," instead of the "apartheid regime."

Mandela as a free man, able to act as a politician rather than a symbol, poses problems that the ANC has not fully addressed.

Although he is regarded as the ANC leader, the highest post Mandela held before the organisation was outlawed in 1960 was deputy-president general. The ANC has a president, Oliver Tambo, who has lived in exile for 29 years.

Mandela was sentenced to life in prison for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the white government.

## Quote me

"The actions taken by the Chinese government have in no way offended the West or any other country." — An editorial in the Communist Party's People Daily in China.

"The most painful of all Arab wounds is the present situation in Lebanon. It is impermissible to keep silent and tap those responsible for this tragedy on the shoulder." — Saddam Hussein said during the 21st anniversary of the rise of the Baath Arab Socialist party to power.

"Each country has an opposition, but a government cannot be hostage to partisan considerations. If one must be hostage, one should be hostage to history and the judgement of history." — Benazir Bhutto told reporters during Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Pakistan.

"Is that a naked lady over there or is there something wrong with my eyes?" Bossier City, Louisiana Mayor George Dement after spotting a woman walking by wearing only a purple sweatband on her head during a news conference.

"First you don't look good. Then your memory goes and then they lug you around in a wheelchair. That's no fun." — Singer Grace Slick on ageing.

"Freedom can never be extinguished — even in the Europe behind the wall. The dream of freedom for all Europe has never died. It's alive today — in Warsaw and Gdansk, in Budapest and across the Soviet Union." — US President George Bush told a crowd in a church in the Netherlands.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 64 — Great fire of Rome begins, and legend is that Emperor Nero set the blaze and played his fiddle as Rome burned.
- 1496 — England nominally joins Holy League against France.
- 1536 — Authority of Pope is declared void in England.
- 1658 — Leopold I is elected Holy Roman Emperor.
- 1792 — France declares war on Sardinia.
- 1812 — Britain, by Treaty of Orebro, joins Sweden and Russia against France.
- 1872 — Britain introduces voting by secret ballot.
- 1912 — Tewfik Pasha becomes Grand Vizier of Persia following fall of Said Pasha's ministry.
- 1923 — British matrimonial causes act gives women equality in divorce suits.
- 1925 — Druses begin insurrection in Syria.
- 1962 — Peru government is overthrown by military leaders, and United States halts military aid to that country.
- 1966 — South Africa declares it will continue control of South-west Africa after World Court dismisses suit brought by black-ruled African states.
- 1972 — Egyptian government orders Soviet Union to withdraw military advisers stationed in Egypt.
- 1974 — Archbishop Makarios, ousted President of Cyprus, arrives in New York to seek support at United Nations.
- 1988 — Iran announces acceptance of United Nations resolution for cease-fire in Gulf War with Iraq.

## Letter to the editor

### Role of journalism

SIR: There can be no two opinions about Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah's thought-provoking emphasis on the quality and constructive role of journalism, as indicated during his talks with a group of reporters and media people at Kuwait Journalists Association (Arab Times, July 11). As an oldtimer in journalism and authorship, I am urged to scribble a few words, confining myself to a particular aspect relevant to the ethics of the profession.

Unfortunately, there is an almost world-wide trend towards cheap sensationalism or the addition of spice to events that deserve little attention. A call girl's sickening exploits claim much wider and ready coverage than a piece of purposeful and sober writing (remember the Pamela episode?).

Of course, cultural norms and ethical values differ

from society to society; and this fact is reflected in journalism also. I would elucidate it by contrasting examples. Certain British papers were replete with almost week-by-week monitoring of Lady Diana's pregnancy until she delivered. Nobody there raised a finger at this media trend.

In contrast, I recall the rebuff given by Benazir Bhutto (now Pakistan prime minister) to a newsman who asked her, at a press conference on the eve of the general elections, when her baby was due. I don't remember her exact words but in her reply she did point out firmly that asking such questions in public was inconsistent with both societal and Islamic traditions.

Kuwait too has its own dignified ethical norms and cultural traditions. A reminder of the need for an awareness of this factor on the part of those in journalism and media is meaningful. This is, of course, in addition to an awareness of the country's

security considerations as well as professional skills of journalism.

The front-page editorial (Arab Times, July 12) denouncing the treacherous bombing at Makkah by hidden hands of evil expresses the sentiments of tens of millions of Muslims — and also of the non-Muslims who uphold the sanctity of holy places of all religions as the common heritage of humanity at large. The perpetrators of the crime are anything but faithful to the Prophet (PBUH) and his religion.

You have aptly drawn comparison from the early days of Islamic history. The existence of such self-anointed hypocrites, who are rebels against Allah in fact, is not a new phenomenon. They need to be exposed by the media, to entitle them to the punitive treatment they deserve. You have done your part of the job, Tadeusz Karwicki. Keep it up.

Dr A. Halder,  
Khaldiya.

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Iran ready to deal with West on equal terms

## Rafsanjani vows to revive industry

NICOSIA, July 17, (Reuters): Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, so confident of winning Iran's presidency that he does not plan to campaign, said in remarks published today that Iran was ready to deal with the West on an equal footing.

As president, he pledged, he would aim to revive the country's industry, now running at less than half-speed, and would back a sell-off of state factories to raise cash and increase the people's role in the economy.

Rafsanjani set out his programme for a four-year presidential term in an interview with the daily Jomhuri Eslami

that reflected pragmatic views taking hold in Iran since the death on June 3 of supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Questioned about ties with Western countries, he said: "If they deal with us on the basis of equal terms and do not wish to impose anything on the revolution we will deal with them on equal terms."

The presidential election is on July 28. The interview was reported by Iran's official news agency IRNA and monitored in Nicosia.

Both Rafsanjani and outgoing President Ali Khamenei, who succeeded

Khomeini as spiritual leader, stress the need for economic growth and good relations with most of the world after eight years of fighting Iraq.

But Rafsanjani, who played a key role in the secret arms purchases which spawned Washington's Iran-Contra scandal, said Iran continued to have serious problems with the United States, Israel and South Africa.

Rafsanjani faces one opponent in Iran's fifth presidential elections — Member of Parliament Abbas Sheibani, a loser in a 1981 presidential race who presents only token opposition.

A 54-year-old Muslim clergyman currently speaker of parliament and acting head of the armed forces, Rafsanjani said he would not set up a campaign headquarters because people were already familiar with his policies.

"I believe a campaign in its conventional form will be counter-productive. People do not expect me to put out posters and photos," he said.

Rafsanjani backed constitutional amendments to be put to referendum also on July 28 which would eliminate the post of prime minister and give all executive powers to the president.

He said Iran would soon begin drilling for oil in the Caspian Sea with Soviet help.

He said Iran needed to improve and expand higher education and promote scientific research, develop natural gas as the best source of energy, expand the railway network and make better use of water resources.

But in the short-term, the important task is to raise industrial production.

Only "about 30 to 40 per cent of the country's industries are active due to shortage of materials, energy or parts," he said.

## League praises Paris meeting

TUNIS, July 17, (KUNA): The Tunis-based Arab League today expressed satisfaction over the results of the industrialised nations summit and described as "positive", particularly those related to Arab issues.

A statement issued today by the League's general secretariat said that the support of the G-7 summit leaders to convene an international Mideast peace conference was considered a positive step.

It expressed hope that the consensus on holding the international conference would lead to a change in the American position and serve as a warning to Israel.

The general secretariat also expressed hope the international efforts would be dedicated for implementation of the UN Resolution 425 calling for withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territories.

It praised French President Francois Mitterrand's efforts to bring about a North-South dialogue to consider international problems.

In this regard, it said that the Arab and Islamic group had asserted such co-operation as suggested by HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah during his address to the UN General Assembly last September.

Meanwhile, the League expressed regret because the final communiqué of the G-7 summit did not touch on the "unsatisfactory" situation between Iraq and Iran, asserting the need to resume negotiations between the two countries as soon as possible.

## 'Summit a circus show'

NICOSIA, July 17, (Reuters): A Tehran newspaper dismissed the Paris summit today as a show that belongs in a circus.

The daily Jomhuri Eslami said the three-day meeting of seven Western powers which ended yesterday was the least successful summit ever with the United States failing to convince others to back its policies towards Eastern Europe and Japan crippled by political-sex scandals.

"This show of power and solidarity has become so senseless and without content that it is fit only to be exhibited in a big circus," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted the paper as saying.

Meanwhile, a senior Soviet official today praised the Paris summit of industrialised democracies as a step towards East-West economic co-operation and hoped Mikhail Gorbachev's letter to the meeting would generate joint action.

"We hope the response to the letter will promote world economic ties involving the balancing of different economic interests," Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said.

He told a news conference the weekend summit in Paris represented "a step forward in co-ordinating macro-economic policy. This is a complex issue but co-operation is needed and we are prepared for such co-operation."

Gorbachev's letter, an unprecedented appeal for economic integration of the East and West, stole the limelight at the meeting of the world's richest countries — the United States, Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy and Japan.

(See Page 12)

## 100 oil finds in 20 years

Iraq marks 21st anniversary of July revolution

BAGHDAD, July 17, (Agencies): Iraq said it had made a total 100 new oil well finds during the past 20 years with total reserves of 280 billion barrels.

The official Iraqi News Agency, in a report last night said the Oil Ministry was now developing the southern Majnoon Island oilfield, under Iranian occupation until May last year.

Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi said two months ago Majnoon contained 30 billion barrels of reserves.

Iraq plans in the coming years to export four million tons of liquefied gas through the Gulf, the agency said.

The agency did not elaborate. It said oil refining capacity of the country's five refineries stood at 600,000 barrels per day (BPD) and work was progressing on another refinery in central Iraq with a capacity of 150,000 BPD.

It said two units of the southern Basra refinery were operational now after repairs to damage sustained in the eight-year Gulf war.

The first unit with capacity of 70,000 BPD has been operating for several months, but there has been no official announcement on the completion of repairs to the second unit with the same capacity.

Iraqi celebrations on the 21st anniversary of the July 17 revolution, which officially begin today, will be characterised this year with peace, reconstruction



Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi

and increased development. Since the Gulf ceasefire went into effect on August 20, 1988, Iraq has embarked on massive reconstruction campaigns to offset eight years of war and to speed-up the development process that began on July 17, 1968.

These reconstruction drives,

costing billions of dollars, have involved the southern port city of Basra and the nearby terminal port of Faw, both of which sustained extensive damage during the hostilities.

Now, with almost one year elapsed since the ceasefire, the country's development process is back on track with all sectors — industry, agriculture, communications, irrigation, education, science and all other fields — in full swing.

Obviously, priority has been given to the country's oil industry, which is the major source of revenue needed to finance Iraq's ambitious development projects.

Work began immediately on repairing oil installations damaged during the conflict, including the huge Basra oil refinery.

In addition, new oil facilities, including docks for exporting oil and oil derivatives from the ports of Khor Al Zubair and Um Qasr, both overlooking the Gulf, have been constructed.

In March, Iraq began to export oil by-products by tanker from Khor Al Zubair. These deliveries are expected to be stepped-up following the recent completion of a rail link between the port and the Basra refinery, which is now back in operation.

Within the next few weeks the country's oil exports will receive a substantial boost with the completion of the second stage of the Iraqi pipeline across Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea terminals.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, July 17, (Reuters): The market closed slightly higher in subdued trading after gains in overseas markets on Friday. The All Ordinaries index closed 5.2 points up at 1,563.3.

TOKYO: Prices closed lower in the year's thinnest trade on prospects that the ruling party will fare badly in an upper house election yesterday. The Nikkei index eased 18.55 points to close at 33,456.22.

HONG KONG: Share prices ended easier in thin trade as investors awaited US May trade data to be issued tomorrow and a Hong Kong government land sale later this week. The Hang Seng index fell 13.47 points to 2,502.64.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed slightly lower on selective profit-taking in active trading. The Straits Times industrial index fell 4.50 to 1,359.0.

BOMBAY: Share prices fell sharply in light trading for the new two-week account on sporadic speculative selling in a market that lacked support. Tata Steel fell 56.25 rupees to 1,362.5 and Nocl 20 to 965.

FRANKFURT: The DAX index touched a 1989 intraday day of 1,537.80 before prices edged lower on profit-taking and a lack of follow-through orders. The index closed at 1,522.99, down 7.47 on Friday's close.

have been resolved immediately," Medikov said.

"But people in Kuzbass have been mistreated for so long that they just do not believe any more."

Soviet newspapers have criticised officials for failing to spell out to the strikers that concessions on night-shifts and economic autonomy which persuaded some Mezhdurechensk miners to return to work also applied to them.

However, even a series of face-to-face meetings between the strikers and Coal Industry Minister Shchadov to explain the official response failed to calm passions.

The trade union daily Trud said yesterday that a total of one million tonnes of coal production had been lost in the strike, estimating the cost to the economy at roughly 20 million roubles (\$32 million).

The strike had dealt another serious blow to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev whose attempts to turn around the stagnating Soviet economy have also been hit by widespread ethnic unrest.



Barber Conable

## Conable for Morocco

RABAT, July 17, (KUNA): World Bank president Barber Conable will pay a visit to Morocco this July 19-22, accompanied by a high ranking delegation from the bank, the Moroccan Press Agency reported.

During his stay here, Conable will hold a series of talks with several Moroccan officials including Premier Azzeddine Laraki, Minister of Finance Mohamed Berrada and Minister in charge of Economic Affairs Moulay Zine Zahidi.

The World Bank substantially contributes to financing priority development projects in the kingdom, mainly in the areas of agriculture, infrastructure, communal equipment, drinking water conveyance, national education and public health.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund said it would lend Jordan 76.66 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to support its economic adjustment programme.

Of the total, 60 million SDRs will be available over the next 12 months in the form of a standby arrangement, and 16.66 million SDRs can be drawn at once to compensate for a shortfall in earnings from merchandise exports, travel receipts and workers' remittances for the year ended December 1988.

## Dollar strengthens

Gold steady

LONDON, July 17, (Reuters): The dollar closed higher in Europe today but dealers described trading as thin and quiet ahead of the release of US trade data for May tomorrow.

"Today was extremely quiet, with people just watching the chart points and waiting for the (trade) figures," said one dealer with a US bank in Frankfurt.

The US currency, which rallied in New York at the end of business last week, closed in London at 1.9075 West German marks and 141.55 Japanese yen against 1.8995 and 140.35 on Friday.

Bank of Japan sales of dollars for yen during Tokyo's trading period today did little to block the dollar's rise.

The yen has weakened in the run-up to an election on Sunday for Japan's upper house of parliament in which the ruling Liberal Democratic Party is expected to suffer heavy losses.

Although the foreign exchange market is awaiting the US Commerce Department's merchandise trade report for May, currency dealers do not expect the data to have much impact unless the numbers differed significantly from expectations.

Wall Street economists expected the May data to show that recent progress in efforts to reduce the deficit was faltering.

The trade shortfall, which totalled \$19.76 billion in 1988, shrank 12.6 per cent in the first four months of this year as the export sector powered an otherwise listless economy.

But the economists were forecasting the May gap to widen

to about \$9 billion from \$8.26 billion in April.

One trader in New York said statements emerging from the weekend summit of the Group of Seven industrial nations in Paris were positive for the dollar but because of the US currency's rally last week many investors were reluctant to buy it.

The G-7 comments were slightly constructive over the medium and longer term," he said. "They didn't try to talk it (the dollar) down."

In Tokyo, a Bank of Japan source told reporters today the Japanese central bank did not expect the dollar to go on rising. It would decline as US credit policy was eased further, he added.

Gold closed in London at \$372.25 an ounce compared with Friday's finish of \$370.50.

European shares were mixed to higher. On Wall Street, profit-taking took share prices lower in morning trading. By New York's midday the Dow Jones Industrial average was 8.92 down at 2,545.90 after a post-crash of '87 high on Friday of 2,554.82.

In London share prices were subdued in late trading near the day's lows, becalmed by lack of hard news over the actual and rumoured bids which boosted the market last week, dealers said.

"There's not an awful lot of excitement in the market. In the absence of any bid development it is likely to come back a bit further," said one dealer.

However, neither dealers nor chart-watching analysts expect any significant setback from current levels.

## Crash probe

### Employees urged to co-operate

TOKYO, July 17, (AP): Japanese prosecutors, investigating the cause of the worst single-airplane crash in history, have asked the US government to help in determining if Boeing Commercial Aircraft Co. employees would submit to questioning, a news report said today.

The nationally circulated newspaper Asahi Shimbun said the US Justice Department, at the request of Japanese prosecutors, was sending letters to about 50 employees, asking if they would co-operate in the probe.

The prosecutors specified Boeing employees who took part in repairs of the Japan Airline Boeing 747 that crashed into a mountain on Aug 12, 1985, killing all but four of the 524 people aboard, Asahi Shimbun reported.

It said prosecutors and Justice Ministry officials declined to comment on the report, saying officials in charge were not available.

If the Boeing employees agree to questioning by the prosecutors, Japan plans to send investigators to the United States, Asahi Shimbun said. Prosecutors will decide this fall whether they will file any charges, it said.

Police conducted a three-year probe that determined the crash was caused by the professional negligence of 20 people, including four Boeing Co. employees. The four were not identified.

Police gave the results of the probe to the prosecutor's office, which will decide whether to press charges for negligence.

A government report issued in 1987 concluded that improper repairs accelerated metal fatigue, which caused the plane's bulkhead to burst, blowing off part of the plane's tail fin and sending the jet out of control.

The report accused Boeing, Japan Airlines and Transport Ministry personnel of faulty repairs and inadequate inspection.

Police said the accident could have been avoided if Boeing had performed the repairs properly, if JAL had checked the repairs adequately and if the Transport Ministry had inspected the aircraft properly.

**LONDON**  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	281/0
ABBEY NAT	144.0	JAGUAR	370.0
ADT LTD	181.0	KINGFISHER	331.0
ALD LYONS	508/0	LADBROKE	311.0
AMSTRAD	73.0	LAND SECS	613/0
ARGYLL GP	221.0	LAPORTE	447/0
ASDA GP	189.0	LASMO	517/0
BAA	351/0	LEGAL+GEN	338/0
BAT INDS	880/0	LLOYDS BK	358/0
BARCLAYS	477.0	LONGRO	306/0
BASS	055.0	LUCAS IND	642/0
BEAZER	187.0	MAGNET AS	205/0
BEECHAMS	628/0	MARKS+SP	169/0
BERISFORD	149.0	MAXWELL C	193.0
BICC PLC	525/0	MECCA LEI	168/0
BLUE ARW	01.00	NAT WEST	325/0
BLUE CIRC	514.0	NEXT	145.0
BCC GP	54.0	NTN FOODS	350.0
BOOTS CO	280/0	P & O DFD	670.0
BPF INDS	255/0	PEARL	498/0
BR CONW	168.0	PEARSON	763.0
BR AIRWAY	206.5	PILKINGTON	246/0
BR AEROSP	728/0	PLESSEY	251/6
BR GAS RG	186/0	RACAL TEL	447/0
BR LAND	384/0	RACAL EL	395/0
BR TELCOM	263.0	RANK HVIS	460.0
BUNZL	145/0	RANK ORG	940.0
BURMAN OL	620.0	REDKITT+CO	205.0
BURTON	253/0	REDLAND	615/0
CABLE&WIR	539/0	REED	435.0
CADBURYS	446.0	RMC GRP	748.0
CALOR GRP	392/0	REUTERS	787.0
CALSONIC	817/0	RTZ CORP	504.0
CRLTN R.T	810/0	ROLLS ROY	186/4
COOKSONS	349.0	ROYAL TMS	415.0
COURTAULD	379.5	SAATCHI	308.0
DALGETY	377/0	SAINSBURY	262.0
DIXONS	156.0	SEARS	126/4
ENG CHINA	487/0	SEEDS	249.0
ENTER OIL	613/0	SEGWICK	249.0
F&I BACKB	177.0	SHELL	421.0
FERRANTI	86.4/4	SIEBE	371/0
FISONS	313.0	SLOUGH ES	317/0
GATEWAY	229/0	SMITH IND	317/0
GEN ACCID	002.0	SMITH+NEPH	144.0
GEN ELEC	262.0	STC	364.0
GLAXO	391.0	STOREHSE	148/0
GRANDRA	347/0	SUN ALFA	298/0
GLOBE	189.0	SUN LIFE	085.0
GLYNED	311.0	TARNAC	306/0
GUARD RYL	223/0	TATE&LE	285.0
GUNL	410/0	TFLR WOOD	329/0
GUINNESS	526.0	T GROUP	450.0
HARRISON A	810/0	T&N	260/0
HARRISON C	226.0	TRUSTHE	334.0
HARRISON D	170/0	ULTRAMAR	523.0
HILLSDOWN	293.0	UNILEVER	645/0
		UNWIPER	450/0
		WELLCOM	445/0
		WIMPEY	280.0

**LONDON**  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLOY	973/0	974/0
600 GROUP	130/0	131/0
A.AMER TS	479/0	478/0
A.S.ELECT	374/0	376/0
A.S.W.HLD	265/0	266/0
AAS KENT	122/0	121/0
AAR HLD	410/0	403/0
AARSONSON	87/0	93/0
ADDISON	41.5	40.5
ADVEST	205/0	204/0
ALEX WRKW	209/0	210/0
ALEXON	390/0	391/0
ALLD COLL	161/0	160/0
ALLD IR B	174/0	173/0
ALLD LON	150/0	151/0
ALLD PART	74/4	75/0
ALLD TEXT	382/0	383/0
ALLIANCE	095/0	095/0
AMBER DAY	68/4	69/0
AMEC	464/0	463/0
AMER TST	158/4	159/4
AMERSHAM	468/0	469/0
AMH HTHC	435/0	434/0
ANGLIA TV	220/0	220/0
ANSBACHER	75/0	76/0
APPLEYARD	167/0	167/0
APV PLC	145/0	145/0
ASHLEY LA	102/0	102/0
ATWOODS	465/0	465/0
ATWOODS	465/0	465/0
AUTO SECS	304/0	304/0
AVESUR	155/0	156/0
AVIS EUR	429/0	430/0
AVON RUBB	537/0	538/0
B. MWHILL	270/0	271/0
BAILL JAP	83/4	83/0
BAILL SHI	535/0	535/0
BAIRD (CV)	95/0	95/0
BANK IRE	300/0	300/0
BANKER IT	238/0	238/0
BARON GP	193/0	193/0
BARRY DEV	184/0	183/0
BAYNES C	34/0	35/0
BBA GROUP	206/0	206/0
BEAR BRND	13/4	13/4
BEATTIE J	151/0	153/0
BELHAVEN	48/4	48/0
BELLWAY	230/0	231/0
BERNHOSE	244/0	243/0
BERNOLD	69/0	69/0
BERKLEY	206/0	207/0
BH GROUP	147/0	147/0
BK OF SCO	94/0	94/0
BLK LE 2	8/4	8/2
BN GROUP	487/0	483/0
BNNETT +F	103/0	103/0
BOASE MAS	362/0	363/0
BODDINGTON	179/0	180/0
BOYD SHOP	808/0	805/0

**NEW YORK**

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH CON	41/3	41/1
ATLANTIC R	96/5	96/4
AAR CORP	31/5	31/6
ABBOTT LAB	61/4	61/4
ACHE CLVD	0	11/7
ADV MICRO	9/2	9/3
AEROPOL LAB	4/4	4/4
AETNA LIFE	58/2	58/2
ARMANSON	22/5	22/4
AIR PR-CHM	42/0	42/0
ALASKA AIR	28/4	28/4
ALBERTSONS	50/1	50/0
ALBMA 8-16	0	90/0
ALCAN ALUM	22/3	22/4
ALCO STAND	32/2	32/4
AM CAP SEC	21/6	21/7
AM CYANID	53/4	54/1
AM STORES	15/6	15/4
AM HOM PRO	95/7	95/7
AM TEL-TEL	36/3	36/3
AMAX INC	25/1	25/1
AMOCO CORP	46/6	46/6
AMP INC	42/1	41/7
AMPCO PITT	0	14/2
AMR CORP	64/0	64/1
AMR GEN CO	37/0	37/2
AMERADA HE	40/0	40/4
ANTHEM ELE	10/6	10/6
APACHE CP	13/7	14/0
APPL 8-12	0	88/2
ARMSTRONG	48/7	48/7
ASHLAND OIL	38/1	38/2
ASIA PACIF	10/6	10/5
ATIS CORP	16/1	16/1
AT&T	26/6	26/5
AVANT INC	24/4	24/3
AVON PRODS	34/3	34/6
BELLSOUTH	50/4	50/6
BELO CP A	34/0	33/7
BEVERLY	8/5	8/6
BLA-DECKER	27/1	27/1
BK BOSTON	30/5	30/4
BK BOSTN A	0	37/4
BK NY-NY	51/2	51/6
BK NY-NY	50/6	51/1
BKAMERICA	27/7	28/2
BKAM SPEC	6/4	6/4
BOEING CO	50/3	50/4
BOISE CASE	43/7	44/0
BND IN GLD	7/7	7/6
BORDEN	69/6	70/0
BOUYER	27/5	27/6
BRIGGS-MTR	25/6	25/6
BRIST-MYR	49/6	49/6
BRUNSWICK	16/7	17/0
C 3 INC	4/0	4/0
CABOT CORP	22/5	22/5
CADSWAY	40/4	40/3
CA FREIGHT	23/3	23/5
CAS NAT GS	17/6	17/7
CAST-COKE	39/0	39/2
CATERPI TR	59/4	59/4
CBT IND	32/4	32/6
CBS	213/7	213/7
CENTEL CP	51/1	51/1
CHAMP INTL	33/6	33/6
CHAMP SPA	20/7	21/0
CHARTER CO	4/4	4/5
CHASE MAN	38/6	38/6
CHENED CP	35/1	35/1
CHEM BK	37/6	37/6
CHEVRON	56/2	56/4
CHRYSLER	24/5	24/6
CHUBB CORP	70/4	70/5
CHUR FR CH	5/3	5/4
CIGNA CORP	59/5	59/7
CIN NILACR	20/3	20/4
CIR CIT ST	25/6	47/2
CIRCLE K	12/4	12/4
CITICORP	32/6	32/6
CLARK EQUI	37/6	37/5
CLOROX	41/4	41/5
COMBIL RES	12	12
COMBIL SP	52/7	52/7
CND PACIFIC	19/4	19/4
COACHMEN	9/1	9/2
COASTAL	43/3	43/2
COCA-COLA	58/5	58/5
COLECO	0	0
COLEMAN CO	0	73/7
COLG-PALM	54/0	53/6
COLUMBUS-C	47/0	47/0
COM EDISON	38/5	38/7
CONAGRA	37/0	36/7
CON EDISON	26/4	26/6
CONTINENTA	35/3	35/3
CONTL ILLN	40/2	40/2
CONTEL CP	43/4	43/4
CONTR DATA	20/7	21/1
COOPER T-R	29/4	29/3
COOPER CORP	3/0	3/1
CORNING INC	39/5	40/0
CORAY RES	47/1	47/3
COUNLINE	8/2	8/3
DANA CORP	42/0	42/2
DANIEL IND	13/6	13/7
DATA GEN	17/1	17/0
DAYTON HUD	53/7	53/7
DEC	94/4	95/2
DEERE CO	57/4	57/2
DELTA AIR	69/2	69/2
DIAMOND SH	21/2	21/3
DIEBOLD	44/5	44/5
DISNEY W	100/0	100/0
DOVER CORP	33/3	33/2
DOW CHEM	89/5	89/7
DOW JONES	36/4	36/5
DRESSER IN	43/0	42/1
DREYFUS	29/6	29/6
DUKE POWER	50/6	51/0
DUN BRAD	58/0	58/1
DUPONT	112/2	112/2
DUKESNE	0	21/0
DYNAMICS	22/5	22/7
E SYSTEMS	32/2	32/2
EAGLE PICH	13/7	13/7
EASTERN EL	31/7	32/0
EMERSON EL	34/2	34/4
EMERSON EL	5/3	5/2
ETHYL CP	24/7	25/0
EXON	45/4	45/5
FAN DOL ST	11/2	11/2
FED NAT ST	93/3	93/2
FELDCREST	28/0	28/1
FLEETWOOD	27/5	27/4
FLEMING CO	36/0	36/0
FMC CORP	39/0	39/0
FORD MOTOR	49/0	48/6
FOSTER WIL	19/4	19/4
FRCHLD IND	0	17/7
FREE MC OG	4/7	5/0
FST BANK	24/7	24/7
FST CHICAG	43/3	43/5
FST INTERS	65/4	65/3
FST MISSIP	15/4	15/5
GANNET CC	46/3	46/5
GAP STORES	42/0	41/7
GALVESTON	2/3	2/3
GATX CORP	72/4	72/2
GEN DATA	5/3	5/3
GEN DYNICS	59/6	60/0

**NEW YORK**

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
GEN ELECT	54/4	54/5
GEN HOST	7/6	7/7
GEN HOSNR	11/1	11/1
GEN INSTR	35/1	35/2
GEN MILLS	67/2	66/6
GEN MOTORS	43/0	43/4
GENCORP	16/4	16/4
GENETECH	17/1	17/1
GENIE PA	39/3	39/1
GEO P&T-BO	0	81/0
GEORGI-PAC	45/5	45/5
GIBR FI CL	*11	*11
GOLDEN NUG	22/4	22/4
GOODRICH	58/5	58/3
GOODYEAR	53/7	54/2
GRACE WR	31/6	31/7
GRATINGER	65/4	65/7
GREYHOUND	34/2	34/3
GRUMMAN	21/7	21/7
GULF RES-C	0	11/2
HALLIBURTON	34/6	35/0
HALLWOOD	5/3	5/3
HANDLHMAN	27/7	27/7
HANNA MIN	24/0	24/0
HARMON	18/1	18/3
HARRIS CP	33/0	32/7
HECLA MIN	12/7	12/6
HEINZ NJ	56/5	56/5
HEL CURTIS	0	56/4
HELM-PAYNE	28/4	28/5
HERCULES	48/7	49/0
HILL-PACK	53/1	53/3
HIXCEL CP	28/3	28/3
HILLENBRND	34/1	34/2
HILTM HTLS	99/4	98/3
HITACHI	113/3	114/4
HUNSTKE MIN	13/2	13/3
HINDY-HARM	17/4	17/6
HOLIDAY C	51/5	51/6
HOM DEPOT	27/2	27/3
HOMEPED CP	39/0	38/7
HONDA MOTR	27/5	28/0
HONEYWELL	81/0	81/0
HOUTNIN MI	39/7	40/0
HUGHES SUP	32/6	32/7
HUMANA INC	21/3	21/2
IBM	114/4	114/6
ICN PHARMA	6/4	6/4
ILL PWR CO	16/4	16/4
ILLIN 4-08	19/7	19/6
INDIA BROW	12/3	12/4
INGERSLL-RA	43/7	43/6
JEFF PILOT	37/5	37/3
JER P 8-5	0	87/5
JOHNSON	38/6	38/7
JOHNSON-JNS	49/3	49/5
K MART CP	34/3	34/5
KAN CI P-L	37/5	37/5
KELLOGG	32/3	32/4
KERR MCGEE	48/0	48/0
KEYSTONE	17/7	18/1
KIMB-CLARK	63/2	63/2
KLN R D AJ	23/6	23/6
KRID WJS	50/6	51/0
KROGER CP	15/5	15/5
LA ROMAL	16/6	16/6
LEHMAN	13/6	13/6
LENNAR	22/6	22/6
LITCOLN NA	54/0	54/0
LITTON IND	88/4	88/6
LOCKHEED	48/3	48/2
LOTTICE CP	45/0	45/2
LOUIS CORP	114/6	114/6
LOWE STAR	31/0	31/2
LONGS DRUG	43/1	43/1
LOWES	26/0	26/1
LTD INC	32/5	32/7
LTV CORP	2/0	2/1
LTV 1-25	2/4	2/4
LTV 3-068	0	3/6

International Bond Highlights

**LONDON:** Great Western Financial Corp. the parent of Great Western Bank, a US federal savings bank, is issuing a 200 mln dir variable rate note due July 1989 priced at par, sole manager Merrill Lynch International Ltd said. In Tokyo, an official at Merrill Lynch Japan Inc said Great Western will try to sell part of the issue in Japan, becoming the first US savings bank to attempt to sell debt there.

**LONDON:** IBM International Finance N.V. is issuing a 100 mln dir Eurobond due Aug 9, 1992 paying a coupon of 11-7/8 pct and priced at 101.225 pct, lead manager S.G. Warburg Securities said.

**HONG KONG:** Hong Kong Bankers said they look the declaration of the G-7 summit as a green light to continue lending to China despite its call for the World Bank to postpone examination of any new loan applications.

**ZURICH:** Union Bank of Switzerland said it was issuing for its own account a 300 mln Swiss franc, 12-year subordinated bond with warrants priced at par.

**LONDON:** Sepporo Finance International BV is issuing a 50 mln dir Eurobond due July 27, 1994 paying a coupon of 8-7/8 pct and priced at 101.35 pct, lead manager Yamatai International (Europe) Ltd said.

**ZURICH:** Banque Paribas (Suisse) SA has scheduled for Wednesday a meeting with co-managers to discuss two Swiss franc bonds it lead managed for Southmark Corp which has filed for reorganisation under Chapter 11 of the US bankruptcy code.

**MANILA:** Philippine debt negotiators are in New York for talks this week with commercial banks on new borrowings and debt relief, a government spokesman said.

BOMBAY

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GNFC	34.25	34.50	33	NAT ORG	--	--	--
CC	308	305	299	GRASIM	129	129	125	NIPPON	38	37	37
LEM CHEM	--	--	--	GSFC	156.75	152.50	151.25	NOCIL	985	970	965
LV NIS	--	--	--	GUJ ALK	68.75	68	68.50	ORKAY	17	17	16.25
RI FAB	--	--	--	GUJ HEAVY	10.50	10	10	OSHAL AGRO	74.50	72	73
ASHOK LEY	79	77.50	78	HERO HONDA	21	19.50	21	PEICO	19.50	19	20
ASIA PAINT	193.75	192.50	187.50	HIND CIBA	880	920	870	PFIZER	68	67.50	67.50
ATLAS COP	38	37	36	HIND COCOA	113.75	112.50	111.25	PONDS	175	175	172.50
AUTO CORP	68	67	67	HIND LEVER	95	95	94.50	PREN AUTO	51	51	51
BAJAJ AUTO	360	357.50	347.50	HIND MOTOR	37	36.75	36	RANBAXY	85	81.25	83.75
BAR RAYON	560	560	565	HINDALCO	310	312.50	297.50	RAY MOOL	83.50	83	84.50
BK BOND	84	83	85	HOCHEST	750	770	740	RECKITT	187.50	182.50	180
BLOW PLAST	--	--	--	IND ORG	39	39.50	39	RELANCE	120.50	121	120.50
BOM DYE	134	129	132	IND RAYON	80	80	79	SESA GOA	42.25	42.50	40.50
BSE INDEX	762.86	758.92	758.92	INDRUM	292.50	293.75	292.50	SHAI HALL	--	--	--
BUR HELL	207.50	202.50	205	INGERSOLL	397.50	382.50	395	SHREE CEM	--	--	--
CANSHARE	185	--	--	ITC	115.50	113	113	SHRI FIB	--	92	94
CEN ENKA	2750	2730	2670	KJ SYN	81	81	79	SIEMENS	69	67	69
CEN SPG	1950	1940	1920	KIM ENGG	170	165	170	SKF	1310	1300	1280
COLGATE	320	320	316.25	KIR CUMH	57	57.50	60	SPIC	54.50	54.25	53.50
CORINT GR	1370	1375	1400	KSB PUMPS	390	--	--	ST MILLS	360	370	360
DCM	10.50	9.50	10.50	L AND T	93	92.50	90	TATA CHEM	124	127	125
DEEP FERT	31.25	30.50	31.50	LIPIONT	74	75	74	TATA OIL	70	75	72.50
DUNLOP	80	80	80	MAC RUSSEL	115	113	116	TATA POW	390	400	407.5
EI HOTELS	62.50	60	62	MAC COATS	106	104	106	TELCO	992.50	995	975
ESCORTS	70	72	72	MAHINDRA	90	92	91.50	THAPP AGRO	--	--	--
ESKAYEF	122.50	122.50	120	MAS SHARE	18.50	17	16.75	TISCO	1418	1395	1362
ESSAR SPG	26	26	26.25	MICO	--	655	650	VAM ORG	171	170.50	170
FOOD SPL	167.50	167	166.25	MILKFOOD	205	200	205	VARELI	25	22.50	25.75
FORBES	32	30	30	MND	85	82.50	85	VOLAT	850	855	850
GAR POLY	64	63.50	62.75	NUK LTD	--	--	--	WINCO	17.75	17.50	16.75
GR SHIPPING	41	42.75	43	NUK IRON	133	132	131	ZENITH	56	52.50	55
GLINDIA	89	91	90.50	NAT INDEX	392.20	--	391.20	391.20	391.20	391.20	391.20

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AEG	203.2	206.6
ALLIANZ VR	2130.0	2108.0
BADENBERK	215.0	220.0
BASF	291.5	291.0
BAYER	290.5	293.5
BAYER HYP	432.0	439.0
BAYER VER	415.0	422.5
BBC	447.0	450.0
BIF	485.0	490.0
BHW	595.0	587.0
COMMERZBK	276.5	282.0
CONTI GUMH	315.5	317.0
DATMER BEN	718.5	709.5
DEUTSC BK	647.3	654.5
DLW	560.0	560.0
DRESNER B	356.0	359.5
DT BARCOLD	207.0	206.0
FEL INDEX	630.47	630.17
FELDMUEHLE	381.2	380.6
GOLDSCHEID	415.8	415.0
HARPER	448.0	448.0
HOCHEST AG	294.0	294.0
HOFER	234.0	234.0
HORTEN	280.0	284.0
HUSSEL HLD	648.0	659.0
KAL SALZ	216.3	216.2
KARSTADT	596.0	592.5
KAUFHOFF	520.0	525.2
KLOECK H	179.0	182.0
KLOECK W	156.0	157.5
LINDE	743.0	742.0
LUFTHANSA	178.0	181.5
MAN	319.5	321.5
MANHESMAN	227.0	231.3
MERCEDES	555.0	544.9
METALLGES	457.0	458.0
NIXDORF PF	326.0	327.0
NORDSK HYD	47.20	47.60
PAULI KHM	532.0	539.5
PREUSSAG	289.0	296.5
PREUSSAG	289.0	296.5
PIA	300.5	301.0
RHEINMETAL	387.0	401.0
RME	329.5	338.0
RME P	272.2	278.5
SALAMANDER	341.0	343.0
SCHAEFER	656.0	656.0
SEL	318.0	317.0
SIEMENS	593.6	599.5
THYSEN	221.9	225.5
VARTA	365.5	372.5
VEBA	329.0	331.8
VEW	214.0	216.5
VOLKSWAGEN	417.7	423.0

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
ANK EA	14.70	14.80
ATKAY	8.35	8.50
AVENDISH	292	297
BEUNG K	7.80	7.80
HINA L-P	11.80	12.10
AIY FARM	700	695
VERGO IND	2.12	2.17
T EAGLE	0	0
S INDEX	502.64	516.11
JECCO	19	19
NG LUNG	4.30	4.35
BERKSON	4.30	4.40
BANK	5.60	5.60
ELEC	7.35	7.50
GAS	17.20	17.30
LAND	7.90	7.90
TELECOM	4.95	4.87
S HOTEL	4.82	4.90
PEMELL	2.27	2.30
BANK	20.90	21.00
THINSON	8.15	8.20
SAN DEV	1.25	1.26
R HATH	19.40	19.60
BUS	11.30	11.70
H	7.35	7.25
I SUN	127	128
MDARIN O	0	0
RAMAR	5.70	5.80
WORLD	9.20	9.35
UL Y CON	95	92
C PROP	9.30	9.35
ELUX	2.07	2.10
IRE A	15.50	15.60
I CHEUNG	4.02	4.02
B	1.05	1.06
URF	8.10	8.15
ISOR	8.55	8.65
LD INTL	3.47	3.47

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AJINOMOTO	2620	2620
AKAI ELEC	753	751
AKAI	1330	1330
ASAHI GLS	2320	2320
ASAHI OPT	918	938
BANK TOKYO	1670	1660
BRIDGESTON	1620	1620
CANON	1800	1790
CASIO COMP	1410	1410
CHUGAI PHM	1800	1810
CITIZEN W	1120	1100
D-ICHI KAN	3280	3320
DAI NIP IK	876	877
DAI NIP PT	2290	2290
DAI NIP SC	1290	1330
DAI NIP TO	942	950
DAICEL	1090	1110
DAIWA H	2100	2140
DAIWA SEC	2240	2220
EBARA MFG	2320	2290
ELSAI	1950	1960
FUJITSU	1630	1630
FUJITSU	3490	3490
FUJI PHOTO	4270	4300
FUJITSAMA	1670	1670
FUJITA CP	1910	1930
HITACHI	1600	1610
HONDA MOT	1940	1960
ISETAN	2440	2480
ITO YOKADO	4030	3950
JAP SYN R	1160	1180
JAPAN AIR	16100	16000
JAPAN MET	1090	1090
KAJIMA	2120	2150
KANSAI EL	4420	4510
KAO SOAP	1690	1710
KAWASAKI H	1200	1190
KAWASAKI S	930	935
KIRIN BREW	1900	1890
KONATSU	1230	1230
KUBOTA LTD	1170	1180
KYOCERA	6270	6260
NAKITA EL	1840	1870
NARUI	2800	2800
MATSUTA EI	2360	2390
MATSUTA EL	0	2660
NEIJI SEIK	1070	1070
MITSUB CP	1480	1490
MITSUB EL	1150	1160
MITSUB EST	2390	2400
MITSUB HYV	1260	1240
MITSUBI CO	1090	1070
MITSUBUSHI	2270	2280
MITSUBI EL	1000	1000
NICHICON	1710	1730
NIHON CHEM	1170	1160
NIXKO SEC	1760	1790
NIP ELEC	1960	1960
NIP KOKKAN	804	830
NIP OIL	1440	1440
NIP STEEL	870	861
NIP YUSEN	1010	1020
NISSAN SEC	1530	1560
NOMURA SEC	3200	3220
OHBA CO	1260	1290
OLYMPUS	1460	1470
PENTA OCM	1340	1350
PIONEER	3800	3780
RENOWN	1110	1110
RICOH	1280	1290
SANKYO	2430	2410
SANKYO ELEC	909	909
SEIYU ST	2210	2230
SEKISUI PB	2020	2030
SEKISUI	1660	1650
SHISEIDO	1840	1840
SONY	7800	7800
SUNITOMO	1350	1370
TAISEI	1600	1620
TAISHO MRN	1360	1380
TAKEDA CH	2330	2330
TEIJIN	930	935
TKO NEW IX	499.74	509.38
TOKIO MRN	2050	2070
TOKYO ELEC	1210	1220
TOKYO GAS	1060	1060
TOKYO POWR	5770	5800
TOYAI IND	975	981
TOSHIBA EL	1360	1380
TOTO	2480	2500
TOYO KOGY	990	999
TOYOTA MOT	2540	2560
YAMAHA	1360	1370
YAMATCHI	1760	1780
YAMAMUCHI	3590	3610
YAMAZAKI	1580	1590

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE DOWN IN LIGHTST TRADE OF YEAR

TOKYO, JULY 17, REUTER - SHARE PRICES WITHERED TO CLOSE LOWER IN THE YEAR'S THINTEST TRADE AS SIDELINED PLAYERS PAINTED GLOOMY PICTURES OF HOW BADLY JAPAN'S RULING PARTY MAY LOSE IN SUNDAY'S UPPER HOUSE ELECTION. SEVERAL SELL PROGRAMS BY FOREIGN BROKERS HELPED PUSH THE MARKET DOWN, TRADERS SAID.

"THE MARKET HAS JUST ABOUT DISCOUNTED LIFE," SAID A TRADER AT A JAPANESE SECURITIES HOUSE.

BUT SOME BROKERS SAID THE MARKET WILL BE RESUSCITATED ONCE THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE ELECTION OUTCOME IS CLEARED AWAY.

THE KEY 225 SHARE NIKKEI INDEX EASED 118.55 POINTS OR 0.35 PCT TO CLOSE AT 33,456.22 AFTER SLIPPING 56.39 ON FRIDAY.

TURNOVER WAS AT A 1989 LOW OF 260 MLN SHARES AGAINST 330 MLN ON FRIDAY. THE PREVIOUS LOW WAS 306 MLN SHARES ON JULY 3.

"ONE OF OUR TRADERS IS PLAYING VIDEO GAMES RIGHT NOW," SAID A BROKER WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED.

SEVERAL ANALYSTS NOTED THAT WHILE MAJOR PLAYERS MAY BE WAITING, THEY ARE NOT SELLING HEAVILY.

"THE MARKET IS STILL BREATHING," SAID TOYO HARU TSUTSUI, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF CS FIRST BOSTON (JAPAN) LTD. "IT IS NOT COMPLETELY DEAD."

"IF THERE WERE GOING TO BE A MASSIVE SELL-OFF, IT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED BY NOW," HE SAID.

THE BROADER FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, LOST 9.64 POINTS TO 2,499.74 AFTER FALLING 4.59 POINTS ON FRIDAY.

FALLS LED RISES MORE THAN TWO TO ONE, WITH 566 ISSUES LONER, 262 HIGHER AND 243 UNCHANGED.

ONCE AGAIN THE SHARES WITH THE HIGHEST MORNING TURNOVER WERE STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRY SHARES AS THE MAJOR BROKERS CROSS-BUGHT THE STOCK TO BOOST VOLUME, TRADERS SAID.

"NEEDLESS TO SAY IT DIDN'T WORK," SAID ONE TRADER AT A FOREIGN BROKERAGE. "NO ONE ELSE FOLLOWED."

INCENTIVE-BACKED SHARES WERE BOUGHT, SOME RELATED TO PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, BUT NO MAJOR THEMES EMERGED.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, JULY 17, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ENDED EASIER IN THIN TRADE AS INVESTORS AWAITED U.S. MAY TRADE DATA ON TUESDAY AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT LAND SALE LATER THIS WEEK.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 13.47 POINTS TO 2,502.64 AND THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX 8.62 TO 1,651.93. TURNOVER SHRANK TO 801.62 MLN H.K. DLSR AGAINST 991.05 MLN ON FRIDAY.

BROKERS SAID INVESTORS WERE CAUTIOUS AHEAD OF THE U.S. DATA AND THE CLOSING OF BIDS ON FRIDAY FOR A GOVERNMENT LAND SITE IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, THE COLONY'S FIRST BIG LAND SALE SINCE CHINA'S JUNE 4 MILITARY CRACKDOWN.

AMMAN

OPMG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.59 2.59
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.19 2.22
ARAB BANK	184.0 191.0
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.54 4.58
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.93 1.91
ARAB INSURANCE	1.08 1.08
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.69 0.68
ARAB INT-UNION INS	1.11 1.16
ARAB INTER-HOTELS	1.28 1.31
ARAB JOR/INVT/BAK	2.40 2.33
ARAB PAPER CON/TRA	0.35 0.34
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	3.84 3.90
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	2.33 2.44
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.10 15.30
BEIT AL-HAL/BEITNA	1.26 1.26
BELGIUM INSURANCE	0.95 1.00
CATRO AMMAN BANK	29.00 29.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05 1.25
DAR AL SHAH PRESS	0.34 0.34
DAR ALDAHA DV/INV.	0.79 0.80
DARAB/INVEST/HOUS.	0.79 0.80
FINANCE/CREDIT/COOR	0.75 0

# Japan denies being villain

PARIS, July 17. (AP): The world's seven richest nations yesterday urged action to save the threatened earth, while Japan made a fervent pitch to escape being cast as the villain of the environment.

Leaders ending their annual three-day summit called for stronger steps to save rain forests, the atmosphere, and the seas, lakes and rivers, saying species were endangered and societies threatened by damage.

"Seldom have I had such intensive discussions about environmental protection as in the last days," said West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

In their final statement, the seven summit nations targeted the depletion of the atmospheric ozone layer, global warming, deforestation and acid rain.

"Decisive action is urgently needed to understand and protect the earth's ecological balance," they said, pledging to work together to preserve the environment.

"Environmental considerations must be taken into account in economic decision-making," said the statement, urging the World Bank and development banks to "integrate environmental considerations into their activities."

Japanese spokesman Taizo Watanabe angrily defended his country's record on the environment, telling reporters that Japan was not guiltless but was trying to change.

The fact that Japanese officials devoted a news conference solely to environmental issues spoke of the country's new emphasis on the environment, including increased spending.

Japan brought \$2.25 billion in environmental-related aid for developing nations that Japanese Prime Minister Souda Ueno unveiled before the meeting.

Watanabe acknowledged that Japan is the largest importer of wood from the threatened rain forests but said "that is something we would like to cope with by extending co-operation with the international tropical timber organisations, which is concerned with preserving forests and planting new trees."

The summit nations called for:

- More scientific research on environmental issues and improved technology to reduce pollution.
- Development of substitutes for chlorofluorocarbons and joint efforts to limit carbon dioxide emissions.
- Promotion of energy efficiency and tougher safety standards for nuclear power plants.

**Gold reserves hit new highs**

TAIPEI, July 17. (Reuters): Taiwan's gold reserves hit a new high after the government resumed imports of the metal, the Central Bank said today.

Gold reserves rose to 13.54 million ounces at the end of May from 13.49 million in April and compared with 12.94 million in May 1988, the bank said.

Taiwan was the world's biggest gold importer in 1988 although the Central Bank halted purchases in July that year after Washington said its imports were intended to reduce artificially the island's huge trade surplus with the United States.

"We believe the Central Bank resumed gold purchases in May when gold prices were low," said Frank Lin, vice-president of the China Trust Precious Metals Corporation.

He said the government might continue to buy if gold prices retreated to May levels of about \$360 per ounce. The price is now about \$371.

A Japanese bullion dealer in Taipei said removal of the gold import tariff this week would stimulate private purchases, mainly by jewellery shops and trading companies.

Taiwan's mainly private sector gold imports plunged to 94.87 tonnes in the first half of 1989 from 249.56 tonnes in the same period last year.

Dealers said imports would rise later this year because of the tariff removal, which would also substantially reduce gold smuggling.

About 150 tonnes of gold were smuggled into Taiwan last year, they estimated.

They said some speculative funds, previously invested in stocks and with illegal investment houses, were shifting to gold.

"There is room for profits if people buy gold now because of low prices," a Hong Kong bullion dealer said.

## EEC emerges from shadow as eighth member

# H.K. bankers see green light from G-7 on China loans

HONG KONG, July 17. (Reuters): Bankers in Hong Kong said they took a declaration by the Group of Seven as a sign to continue lending to China, even though the seven major industrial nations asked the World Bank to postpone examination of any new loan applications.

"The crucial point is G-7 will not isolate China from the international economic and trading circle. China can still export to the Western world and earn hard currencies. It's a good sign to foreign banks," a Japanese banker said.

Uncertainty has surrounded loans to China and foreign investment since Beijing bloodily suppressed a student-led pro-democracy movement last month.

Leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada meeting in Paris at the weekend condemned China and urged it to stop suppressing people seeking democratic rights.

They also called on the World Bank to postpone examining new loans to China — a step the World Bank has already endorsed — but stopped short of imposing economic sanctions.

Bankers said the appeal to the World Bank was only a short-term political manoeuvre.

The Japanese banker said his bank would hesitate lending to China before it was sure of the reasoning behind the G-7 stance.

"It may be purely on political considerations or the World Bank may have some inside information about China's economy. We need to find out the reasons first," he said.

The World Bank's suspension of new loans to China would not provide more lending opportunities to commercial banks, bankers said.

"The World Bank usually

## Poor seek French cash

PARIS, July 17. (Reuters): Organisers of the poor peoples' summit said yesterday they had asked France to put up cash to help them monitor the West's economic policies.

Representatives of seven of the world's poorest nations said they wanted to set up a permanent centre to keep track of the policies of the seven leading industrial democracies, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The "summit of seven poor peoples" held rival summit talks in a Seedy Paris meeting hall over the weekend as leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada and Italy held their annual economic discussions in the Glass Pyramid of the Louvre Museum and the futuristic Arche de la Defense.

Organisers of the alternative summit of peasant leaders and community workers from Brazil, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Mozambique, the Philippines and Zaire, told a news conference they had asked President Francois Mitterrand's top adviser to consider French government funding for the project.

"We'll have to see about that," they quoted him as replying. French presidential adviser Jacques Attali briefly received a delegation from the counter-summit on Saturday and promised he would hand the heads of state and government leaders a copy of their appeal.

"We refuse to allow the seven (rich) the right to speak in the name of the entire world and to decide for the whole of humanity," the poor seven said.

offers loans over a longer period and with a thinner spread. I don't think China will turn to commercial banks for capital to compensate the World Bank's loans," a European banker said.

A US banker said the G-7 declaration had little effect on his bank's lending policy to China. "What we care about is China's economic fundamentals," he said.

"China has to demonstrate its open door policy by a commercial approach rather than a slogan. For example, it has to attract more businessmen to invest and make profits in China, or honour deliveries of all the shipments," he said.

Banking sources said China had already tried to rebuild the confidence of foreign investors by making swifter payments.

"I think banks will start new

loans to China after finishing their studies of China's economy," another Japanese banker said.

Many banks, particularly Japanese companies, are expected to finish studies on China's economic and political conditions to give them a better idea of what their lending policy towards China should be.

A West German banker said some commercial banks have already started arranging loans for Chinese projects and investments. He expected new loans to be launched on the market within one to two months.

For the European Economic Community, the Paris summit of the world's major industrialised nations was a coming of age for a participant once viewed as a gate-crasher at these annual gatherings.



US President George Bush listens to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl moments before French President Francois Mitterrand delivers the final statement of the 15th summit meeting of the Group of Seven industrialised countries, at the Arche de la Defense. (Reuters wirephoto)

The summit that ended yesterday asked the EEC to co-ordinate a sustained Western effort to bring food to Poland and trade opportunities to Hungary as a reward for their attempts at democratic and economic reforms.

"This is the recognition of the increased weight and importance of the EEC in world affairs," said Claus Ehlermann, the spokesman for EEC leader Jacques Delors who represented the 12-nation organisation at the three-day summit.

The EEC's executive commission has attended the annual meetings of the leaders of the United States, Canada, France, Britain, West Germany, Italy and Japan since 1977.

But to date, the summits have largely ignored the EEC's role as the world's largest trade bloc, focusing mostly on ways to harmonise the economic and monetary policies of the world's seven major industrialised nations.

But in a declaration on East-West relations, issued by the

summit Saturday, the leaders asked the EEC to organise, within weeks, a meeting of Western nations interested in helping Poland and Hungary.

Yesterday's final communiqué praised the European Monetary System for having brought monetary stability to Europe, stressed that the planned 1992 removal of EEC barriers will lead to more trade, and welcomed the community's recent initiative to improve trade links with the non-EEC nations in Europe.

# Iranians battle to make a living

## A year after war

TEHRAN, July 17. (Reuters): A year after Iran accepted an end to its war with Iraq, shortages of food and consumer items are forcing the average citizen to hustle for a living.

Most people pay scant attention to politics, despite the organised rallies of millions which can give the impression that Iran supports one vast, continuous political demonstration.

"Everything depends, my friend, on who you are, how much you have, and what you want," said the manager of one of the few large food shops on Tehran's main Velia Avenue.

And it is ironic that in a country which considers the United States the 'great satan', the US dollar is king.

American cigarettes are an alternative currency. Street hawkers sell them individually, or by the packet at every few yards and they are a most accurate real economic indicator.

Anyone with access to dollars

is said to be automatically rich. The official exchange rate moves around 76 to 82 rials to the dollar. But all normal standards of measuring economic well-being become useless in the context of a blackmarket exchange rate at times reaches 20 times the official rate.

The only way to judge the health of both the national and the individual's budget is to guess at the supply and demand of real goods, or to calculate how many dollars they have.

Iranian economists calculate the national annual value of goods and services produced, the gross national product (GNP), at around \$160 to 180 billion.

But they also estimate 90 per cent of the economy is state-run, and perhaps 80 per cent or more of that is within the economy, or in other words, it does not generate foreign exchange. GNP at real dollar values is anybody's guess.

Inflation, the key indicator for individual wealth which Prime

Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi estimated at over 23 per cent in March, also means little because of the rapid fluctuation in supply of different goods.

Meat is a case in point. "Last winter, we were paying about 3,000 rials a kilo for a good cut," said a woman in the street.

"The long summer drought has forced farmers to kill many animals and now we can get it for 1,800, but for the same reason it is going to shoot up again soon, isn't it," she said.

Government ration coupons are issued for everything from toothpaste to rice and people carry large wads around with them, although having a coupon does not guarantee availability.

Wages are generally too low to cover costs. A low-paid worker — most of Tehran's 10 million people — can earn about 40,000 rials a month.

A two-bed apartment in an average area rents for around 30,000 a month, Iranians said.

## Neutrality no obstacle

# Austria applies to join EEC

BRUSSELS, July 17. (Reuters): Austria formally applied to join the European Economic Community today, saying its neutrality was no obstacle to political and economic union.

Foreign Minister Alois Mock handed the brief letter of application to France's Roland Dumas, who currently chairs EEC ministerial meetings.

"Austria presents this application on the understanding that her internationally recognised status of permanent neutrality... shall be maintained," the letter said.

"For the Austrian government, membership of the community and neutrality are compatible," Mock told a news conference.

Whether this point of view is accepted by the community, we'll see only at the end of official negotiations some time in the 1990s," he added.

The 12 EEC foreign ministers discussed Austria's membership over lunch today, conscious that it raised fundamental questions about the future size,

structure and direction of the bloc.

Diplomats said many regarded it as confirmation of the increased international profile of the community, due largely to its drive to abolish all internal barriers and become a giant single market by the end of 1992.

Austria's application has an obvious economic logic, although its farmers and ecologists are not enthusiastic.

Seventy per cent of its trade is already with EEC countries. In 1988, its exports to the community were worth \$20 billion compared with imports of almost 27 billion.

Mock noted that Austria would probably be a net contributor to EEC coffers. By contrast Turkey, which applied to join the EEC two years ago, would be a major drain on community resources.

But the neutrality issue is certain to dominate the debate on Austrian membership.

# Federal agency to investigate exchange actions

CHICAGO, July 17. (AP): The commodities futures trading commission says it will review the trading positions of Chicago Board of Trade directors to see if any of them profited from the drop in soybean prices caused by their emergency sell order.

The regulatory agency made the announcement yesterday as Italian agribusiness giant Ferruzzi said it would renew its court battle to recover losses from a Board of Trade order forcing soybean traders to liquidate large positions in the market.

Raul Gardini, chairman of Ferruzzi Finanziaria Spa, reiterated in Milan that it was legal for his company to accumulate

futures contracts to take delivery of 23 million bushels of soybeans.

A Ferruzzi spokesman said a lawsuit probably would be filed in Chicago, but did not provide a time-table. The company also indicated it might seek compensation for unrealised profits as well as damage to its reputation.

On Thursday, US district judge James Zagel denied a request by two of the company's subsidiaries — Ferruzzi Trading International SA and Ferruzzi USA Inc — for a restraining order and a permanent injunction ending the directive issued Tuesday by the Board of Trade.

Zagel told exchange attorneys to file a

motion to dismiss the lawsuits by Tuesday, with a response due July 24.

Gardini didn't specify the amount of losses Ferruzzi suffered as a result of the board's order, which required all traders to reduce their July contract soybean holdings to 1 million bushels by the close of trading Thursday.

Exchange directors have said they issued the liquidation order because the open July soybean contracts totalled about 40 million bushels and there were abnormally low levels of stocks available to satisfy the contracts — a situation that would have resulted in a number of defaults without the exchange's intervention.

Any player with a large enough share of the market — a position referred to as "cornering the market" — theoretically could force those on the other end of its futures contracts to deliver, possibly causing a scramble for supplies that would drive the price of its soybeans up sharply.

Soybean prices for July delivery rose 6 cents to \$7.03 1-2 a bushel on Friday. Despite the gain, the price was still well below \$7.26 a bushel, the level at which July soybeans settled on Tuesday before the Board of Trade's directive.

"Ferruzzi and all major world traders are convinced that the board made a mistake and has to suffer the consequences," Gardini said.

## Minister hopes to sign price pact

### Consumer prices up

BUENOS AIRES, July 17. (Agencies): Argentina's new government and top business leaders hope to sign a price agreement today aimed at halting the nation's runaway inflation, the new economic minister said last night.

Officials said the agreement would freeze prices at their July 15 levels until Sept 30. The government previously sought a roll-back to July 3.

"I am sure that tomorrow we will be in a position to sign the price accord with a majority of the 300 leading businesses," Economic Minister Nestor Rapanelli told a news conference. "Food producers are already in agreement."

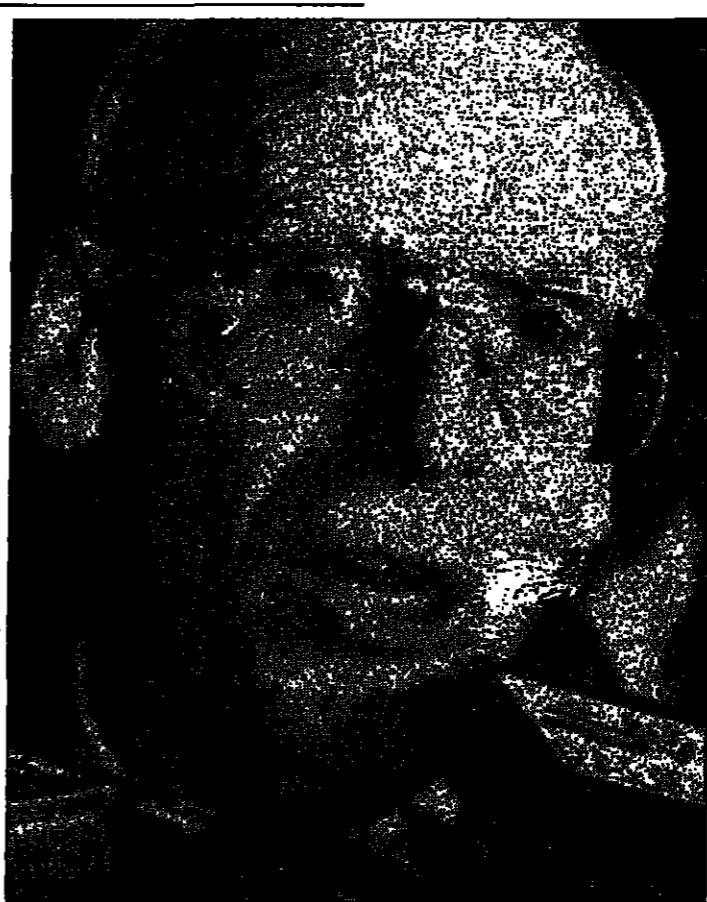
The food firms Saturday submitted a list of the maximum prices they will charge for such basic staples as cooking oil, rice, pasta, cornmeal, bread and flour.

In addition, some of the country's supermarkets announced, in yesterday's newspapers that they would sell essential commodities "without a profit margin."

Consumers prices have been going up on the average of 50 per cent a week, and overall inflation was expected to reach 200 per cent by the end of July.

For its part during the 90-day government will not alter tariffs, the exchange rate of the austral or rates for public services.

The government last week announced a stabilisation plan that included a 53.84 per cent devaluation of the austral and a



Nestor Rapanelli

seven fold increase in the price of gasoline.

Rapanelli said the government "is also contemplating the possibility of modifying the prices of exported goods such as wheat grain," in order to improve Argentina's now dismal balance of trade.

The measures taken by Carlos Menem in his first week as President were as sweeping as Argentina's problems are daunting: minimum 200-per cent increases in public utility rates to curb the fiscal deficit, and a 54-per cent currency devaluation to bring down interest rates.

## Pressure stepped up on Swiss banks

ZURICH, July 17. (Reuters): At the end of a recent town council meeting in Delemont, Mayor Jacques Stadelmann fired the loudest shot yet in a local campaign against Swiss banks doing business with South Africa.

After the council voted to boycott the country's three biggest banks in protest against their links with Pretoria, Stadelmann announced that the northwestern Swiss town would return a 20,000 Swiss franc (\$12,400) gift it had just received from Swiss Bank Corp. (SBC).

"We have no illusions," he told Reuters. "This will not change the bank's attitude, but it was something we could do to show how we feel."

The anti-apartheid campaign against banks may resemble mosquitoes chasing elephants but financial analysts say it could become a sizeable lever.

"This will be a major issue here within five years," said Heinrich Looser, chief financial analyst at Bank Julius Baer in Zurich.

Switzerland's anti-apartheid movement has persuaded more than 1,800 people this year to close their accounts with the big banks: Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), SBC and Credit Suisse.

More than 4,000 others have pledged not to open an account until the three end their South African links, says Catherine Weber, secretary of the No Money for Apartheid Project, an umbrella organisation for 21 Swiss anti-apartheid groups.

"We think the banks are getting quite nervous," she said. She noted that four more town councils were due to vote later this year on measures similar to Delemont's.

Looser said the sums withdrawn so far only represented a drop in the ocean for the biggest Swiss banks. "There will certainly be some public opinion pressure, but the bottom line is that these protests will have zero effect," he said.

The real pressure will come from the big international fund managers who are becoming more sensitive to the apartheid issue, especially in the United States, he said.

He estimated that every second US institutional investor checked whether Swiss banks with whom they did business had ties with South Africa.

Such checks cost two Swiss banks the chance to take part in a Eurobond issue for the Canadian province of Ontario in February when they could not provide assurances that they did not do business with the South African government.

## Oil revenue drops

NICOSIA, July 17. (Reuters): Oman said today its oil earnings fell in the first quarter of 1989 to 256.6 million riyals (\$66.6 million).

Officials figures, carried by the Oman News Agency received in Nicosia, said this compared with 278.7 million riyals (\$72.4 million) in the first quarter of 1988.

Oman, which is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, relied back production to help OPEC boost prices and currently produces about 500,000 barrels per day.

Gas revenue jumped 200 per cent to 10.2 million riyals (\$2.6 million) in the first quarter this year from 3.4 million riyals (\$8.3 million) in the same period of 1988.

## Record year for cargo

BRITISH Airways Cargo has reported results for the financial year that ended on March 31, 1989.

For the 12 months, the airline increased freight revenue by more than 33 per cent and volume was up by 34.6 per cent, the highest growth rates ever achieved.

Revenue generated over the year was £360 million, an increase of 28.6 per cent over the previous financial year. This included earnings from freight, mail and excess baggage. Freight alone earned £285 million, an increase of 33.1 per cent.

Cargo revenue represents eight per cent of the overall British Airways turnover of £4,257 million.

Overall the average cargo load factor on intercontinental routes was 65 per cent, a two per cent improvement.

A special achievement has been the development of the Speedbird Courier wholesale operation.

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 17/07/1989			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Sanko Sapphire	Algh Barwil	4842988
2	Basrah	KSA	4843150
4	Ibn Bassam	KSA	4843150
5	Hoogh Dyke Gayman	M. Bahar	2433881
6	Zarka	GH&Q	4347815
7	Comman 2	GH&Q	4347815
8	Drvar	M. Bahar	2433881
9	Lotus Dawn	GH&Q	4347815
13	Macask Fiero	Behbehani	2412085
14	Joann M	Alghanim Barwil	4842988
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
17/7	Baghdad	KSA	4843150
17/7	Shaan	ISA	2441860
18/7	Ibn Alhatham	KSA	4843150
18/7	Viktor Talalikhin	Al Rasheed	2422026
18/7	Atlantic Express	S. Shaheen	2432692
18/7	Ledenice	M. Bahar	2433881
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Sparkle Moon	M.A. Bahar	2459891
11	Floja	Algh. Freight	4745533
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
O'due	Marjon	Al Kamal	2425437
O'due	Ming Yu	Algh Barwil	4842988
16/7	Charalambos. B	Algh Barwil	4843988
17/7	Donna Sophia	GH&Q	4347815
17/7	Ibn Bassam	UASC	4843150

COMPILED BY:  
Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988  
ext. 3622/3646 Fax No. 4845712

مكتبة الجول

## EVENTS

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

## Kuwait Science Museum

OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

## Islamic Arts Museum

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

## Sadu House

SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 4 to 7.00 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

## Tareq Rajab Museum

Sat-Thurs: 9-12 noon and 4-7 pm. Also open on Fridays from 9 to 12 noon.

## SOCIAL

## KAPILKU meeting

JULY 19, Wednesday: The officers of the Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) will hold their meeting at Far East Restaurant at 8.00 pm. Topics to be discussed are as follows: Palang Pilipino (annual/souvenir programme, sponsors and awarding ceremony); Philippine community day and Mutya ng Pilipinas - Kuwait; Little Mr & Miss Philippines - Kuwait; Kapilku Night.

## British Council

JULY 19, (6 pm), July 20 (10.30 am). The Magical World of Gigi, a children's film, will be shown at the British Council premises in Mansouria. It is the story of Princess Gigi who lives in the Kingdom of Fairyland. She is sent to Earth and with her magic wand, she transforms herself into a super-girl to make people's dreams come true.

July 22, July 23 (6.30 pm): This month's feature film is An Englishman Abroad. Based by Alan Bennett on the real-life meeting between Burgess and Coral Browne, filmed on location in London, Glasgow, Dundee, Alan Bates is Burgess.

Admission is free for both movies but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204; 253-3227.

## Bangladesh Association

JULY 21: The association invites all Bangladeshis to join the Bangladesh Library as founder/life members. Those who are interested can contact any executive member of the association on July 21 from 6 to 8 pm at the embassy premises. A meeting will be held at the embassy premises on August 4 to discuss the formation of the library.

## D'Assisi Social Evening

AUG 1: D'Assisi Association will hold their social evening at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The highlights of the evening will be the crowning of D'Assisi Queen. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide the music. For more information contact Joe Jack Ferns on 5644178, Henry 3717346 or contact A.M. Fine Arms. Shop No. 34, Al Karak Super Market, near GPO, Kuwait.

## Little Mr and Mrs Philippines at Show Biz

THE Kapisanang Filipino sa Kuwait (KAPILKU) will award the Little Mr & Mrs Philippines - Kuwait, for 1989 on Friday, August 11 at Show Biz Pizza Place at 3.00 pm.

Aside from the awarding for Little Mr & Miss Philippines - Kuwait the children will be treated to a special event, that is, the Araw ng mga bata (Children's Day) in which they will be entertained by cartoons characters, puppet show, parlor games, songs and dances.

Children of Filipino parents aged three to seven will be eligible to take part in the Little Mr and Miss Philippines contest. The talent portions for the children will be classified according to ages. The three to four years would have their own questionnaires, while the five to six as well as the seven have also their questionnaires portions.

Hurry don't miss this occasion, register your children and win fabulous prizes donated by the sponsoring companies. For registration and particulars, contact Jojo Medrano, AYP who is the chairman and Rosale Austria, the vice-chairperson, or VP Sarah Macarimbang on telephone No. 4843447.

## United Goans

AUG 3: Summerbelle '89 is about to happen. United Goans Centre present "Top Rank and Stepping Stones" in a music saturated evening at the Tent SAS Hotel. Crowning of Summerbelle, various competitions, etc. to keep you on your toes. For details contact: Moses 2454266, Joe 5655140, Anicet 2439249 after 6 pm.

## KAPILKU Children's Contest

AUGUST 11: KAPILKU will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Araw ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). Last date for submitting entries is July 28. For details contact Jojo Medrano, AYP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang - Tel: 483447.

## Independents ball

AUGUST 17: At the Mesilla Beach Hotel from 8.30 pm onwards. Organised by Kuwait Independents Hockey. For tickets and details contact F. D'Mello (2421252) or S. Bajaj (2445825) after 7.30 pm.

## Farewell pictures

Photographs taken at the farewell reception for outgoing Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha, organised by the Indian community, are available from Sami Farooqi. Those who are interested in getting a copy of their contact Tel: 2446489.

## KALPAK's exhibition

SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art & Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (KALPAK) will hold an exhibition of Indian Arts & Handicrafts at the Indian Embassy Hall from 3 pm to 8 pm.

## Tivim Centre

OCT. 26: Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Lot of surprises await. For further information contact the organisers.

## HOTELS

## At the Kuwait Plaza

Enjoy the fun: join the celebration of fun and games every Friday at Al Dallah coffee shop where you enjoy all kinds of delicious food. Continental dishes, mezzah, special sweets and Arabic ice-cream. A unique ambience with the most celebrated magician in town. A gift for every child. Fun for the whole family with Walt Disney characters. KD3.000 per child, KD4.500 per adult.

Loulwah corner: Featuring delights of Arabic ice-cream with nine different flavours specially made for the Kuwait Plaza by Syrian experts. Also offers jumbo size of all sorts of sandwiches ranging from the famous Lebanese 'forrouj', chicken with garlic to steak sandwiches with the Plaza special touch. The famous oud player Fawzi Jamal who sings the best of the good old days songs. A special 4 course lunch for only KD2.500.

Marco Polo: Enjoy the authentic Italian atmosphere which makes you feel that you are in the heart of Rome. Taste the

real Italian lasagne and spaghetti with the largest size of pizza and savour your favourite Italian dishes while you are listening to Stan and Alice, the famous duo in town.

## At the Meridian

UNTIL July 31: Ice cream promotion at Al Waha Restaurant in the Salmiya Complex.

## At the SAS

AL GHAZER: Have an exhilarating voyage on board Al Ghazee, our very own beautifully hand-crafted dhow. Take this unique opportunity and experience the old seafaring Kuwaiti tradition. Available for half day or full day trip along the Gulf coastline. Trips to Kubar, Umm Al Maradim and Failaka islands can be arranged on request. Fishing tackle, food and beverages are provided. For bookings, call 5657000 ext. 416.

Peacock Room: Relish yourself with authentic Chinese specialties in a very cozy ambience, visit our Peacock Room. For reservation call 5657000 ext. 403 or 532.

Bistretto: Savour something Italian, visit the Bistretto. Also offers Continental and international dishes. Open from 6 am to 1 am everyday.

Al Boom: Come aboard Al Boom and taste its fine menu of charcoal grilled foods. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursday and Fridays. Call 5657000 ext. 403 or 540 for reservations.

Eedam: Planning your picnic, visit Eedam. Offers home-made specialties, freshly baked goodies, imported meats and smoked fish.

Clock: Always on the go, let SAS Clock drive-in restaurant serve you. Offers wide varieties of fast food items.

## At the SAS

WELCOME on board Al Boom. Dine on our delicious mezzah buffet followed by your favourite specialty from our wide selection of fine charcoal grills and finish off with della coffee or have a puff from the hubble bubble/pipe. Dinner daily and lunch every Thursday and Friday. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

## At the Kuwait Plaza

MARCOPOLO: The Italian restaurant in the heart of the city offers jumbo authentic pizza, spaghetti, lasagne and a wide variety of real Italian dishes in Italian ambience with live music by the most celebrated duo Stan and Alice. Loulwah corner: The Parisian cafe with Arabic music by the oud player Fawzi Jamal. Enjoy the delights of different sandwiches and mouth watering juices and Arabic icecream. A special promotion for business lunch four courses including coffee or tea for only KD2.500.

## At the Ramada Hotel

EL BENDAR coffee shop at the Ramada Hotel offers continental and Arabic buffets daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 mid night daily, a la carte also available. A selection of home baked cakes, gateaux and tarts made to order.

Ramada Al Salam lobby lounge open 10 am to 11 pm on Sundays offering a selection of coffee, tea and juice, cakes and pastries available.

## VIDEO CORNER

## Backyard hysteria in not-quite-sane suburbia



Tom Hanks

## Gail Seery

"DO not mess with suburbanites, because we're not going to take it any more." Art Wiegarden tells the TV news cameras in "The Burbs", which stars Tom Hanks as the perplexed Ray Peters.

Ray has taken a week off work. He doesn't want to go anywhere. He especially doesn't want to go to the lake where the family have a cottage. He just wants to mooch around, drinking a few beers, lying in the back yard trying to get a tan, and generally doing nothing at all - except possibly building a barbecue. His wife, played by ex-Star Wars Carrie Fisher would much rather go away, and is less than delighted when neighbour Art begins to involve Ray in schemes of his own.

The entire drama is situated in one suburban street, with nice houses, nice cars, and nice lawns. Ray is getting sick of it however. "I think we should move - we have an arms dealer down the street, and a crazy person across it, and all they do

is fight."

They have new neighbours however, who don't quite fit into the every day suburban mold. Their name is Klopek, and throughout the film the conjecture is that they are Slavik in origin. No-one sees them, and by complete coincidence, when Ray and Art double dare each other into ringing the door bell, a swarm of very unfriendly bees attack them.

The doings get more and more bizarre when Walter, an old man with a dog, disappears, and Hans Klopek is spotted dumping a huge bag of garbage in a mysterious rain storm. Later, to complicate matters further, all three Klopeks are seen digging in the garden at dead of night. The outcome sees Art, and his arms dealer neighbour sitting in the rubbish truck sifting through the garbage for signs of a dead body. Then, Ray's dog, digging along the boundary his house shares with cheez Klopek, finds a human femur...

Tom Hanks has become a



Carrie Fisher

well known actor since his performance in "Big", and in the Burbs he gives another first rate performance as the rational hero, who is out to see that justice is done. He spends a long time resisting Art's claims that the Klopeks are devil worshippers, but finally he feels he must accept that the evidence points to the fact that something strange is going on. "Nobody knocks off an old man in my neighbourhood and gets away with it," he says, to Clint Eastwood type music.

This hero/Clint Eastwood

theme runs throughout the movie, and brightens it, even if the action was never in danger of flagging. Right at the end of the film, there's a sequence that is lifted almost perfectly from the final part of High Plains Drifter.

The Burbs is a very convincing portrayal of group hysteria, and of how people can wind themselves up to believe the improbable, beginning to look at even straightforward occurrences without seeing the obvious solution.

The film is genuinely eerie,

genuinely scary in places, with a mystery that isn't unravelled until the very end - as if this wasn't enough to make the film worthwhile, it's also very funny in places. Carrie Fisher puts in some excellent work as the sceptical and down-to-earth wife who does her utmost to keep Ray's feet firmly on the ground. There's also a nice appearance from Henry Gibson, who used to appear on Rowan and Martin's Laugh In reciting poetry. His role in The Burbs is a little bit more sinister however.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
9.15 Sabah Al Khir News and Variety  
9.30 Cartoons  
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite  
10.15 Al Hob Wa Essabar: Arabic serial (Part 6)  
11.05 Sabah Al Khir News  
11.15 Al Nisr Wa Ayoon Al Madinah: Arabic serial (Part 20)  
12.15 Hikayat Maa Al Nojoom: Variety programme with show guest artist Sulaiman Najeeb

1.00 News Summary  
1.05 The World Today via Satellite  
1.30 Flouma: Cartoon serial  
2.15 Al Shams Baad Al Ghayoub: Arabic serial (Part 9)  
3.30 Bibi Folk and Calimiro: Cartoon serial  
4.00 Qatel Al Wahm: Arabic feature starring Khaled Zaki, Mohammed Tawfeeq and Ibrahim Khan  
7.00 Hikayat Al Asmai: Historical serial, starring Rasheed Al Lama, Neda Al Sabiq and Mohammed Ibrahim  
7.55 Nadwat Al Osboos: Cultural programme  
9.00 News in Arabic  
10.00 Haribat Maa Al Madhi: Daily Arabic Serial (Part 3)  
10.45 Sit Al Bai: Arabic feature film  
12.30 News Summary  
12.05 The World Today via Satellite  
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

## KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran  
6.10 Amigo and Friends: A cartoon series for children  
6.30 Captain Power: "Summoning Thunder Party". A group of criminals attack a city and take Stewart's son as a captive where they attempt to blackmail his father.  
7.00 Gone Fishing. A look at the world's most popular recreational sports, types of fish, where to find it and how to get there.  
7.30 The New Adventures of Beans Baxter: "Beans and the Satirical Backward Masking Conspiracy". Where Beans Baxter attempts to unveil the secret plan of an underground criminal organisation.  
8.00 News in English  
8.30 A Different World: A debate is held between the students before



Fatin Hamama in KTV1 Arabic feature film 'Sit Al Bai' at 10.45 pm today.



A scene from Gone Fishing on KTV2 at 7.00 pm today.

holding the elections.  
9.00 Horizon "The Diary of Discovery". A look at NASA the American space agency since its formation in 1965 until the failure of Challenger on 25.1.1986.  
10.00 Hooperman: Hooperman chases a crazy man who breaks out fire everywhere.  
10.30 L.A. Law: "The Son

Also Rises." A criminal kills two cops and Van Owen acts as a prosecutor in this case.

12.00 News in Brief  
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Dubai Pharmacy  
Souq Waqif  
Al Jazzer Street  
Property of Mohammed Al Rifai  
Al Omar Pharmacy  
Mubarak Al Kaber Street  
Al Awwaf Bldg.  
Hawalli and Nagra  
Noora Pharmacy  
Nagra  
Al Othman Street  
Near Hamad Al Barrak Mosque  
Salahiya and Rumsithiya  
Al Markaziya Pharmacy  
Amro Bin Al As Street  
Al Asfoor Bldg.  
Fahsheel and Ahmadi  
Al Iman Pharmacy  
Fahsheel  
Makkah Street  
Property of Faisal Al Daboos  
Farwamiya  
Al Minawer Pharmacy  
Souq Janoubi Street  
Property of Abbas Al Minawer  
Jahra  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
The New Commercial Market

## CINEMA

Al Andalus  
Arabic film  
Al Hama  
Red Scorpion  
Al Sahiyya  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Tridev  
Starring: Sunny Deol, Jackie Shroff, Madhuri Dixit  
Fahsheel Open-Air  
Mardana  
Al Fahsheel  
The Return  
Al Jahra  
Play Dead  
Granada  
Veendum Liza  
Al Sulabikhat  
Killing Machine  
Al Jleeb  
Someone to Watch Over Me  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Arabic film

## PRAYERS

Fajr	3.27 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.29 pm
Maghreb	6.48
Isha	8.17



Helena Bonham Carter and Jesse Birdsall in the romantic comedy Getting It Right.

## Helena steps out of character

# Thoroughly modern

By Marina Shamon

NYMPH-LIKE actress Helena Bonham Carter looks just like a heroine from the Barbara Cartland novel — petite with chocolate-brown eyes, English rose complexion and a mane of dark hair.

Filmgoers have learned to expect to see her in period settings. She played the sweet Edwardian flower, Lucy Honeychurch, in *A Room With a View* and in *Lady Jane*, she was Queen of England for nine days.

Now 22-year-old Helena is trying to break the mould by playing more contemporary roles but it is not easy when directors have placed her in a costume-drama pigeonhole.

At last, however, she has managed to get out of the long, heavy costumes buttoned up to the neck and slip into a tiny mini-skirt. Helena will soon be seen in

*Getting It Right*, a comedy about relationships in which she plays a girl suffering from bulimia, the slimming disease.

She is almost unrecognisable with her face plastered in heavy make-up and she looks spaghetti thin because she had to go on a diet to play thoroughly modern Minerva.

Modern Doing a modern-day part was totally refreshing for Helena. She said: "I felt utterly normal. I didn't feel I was in a time warp. I don't have to wear old-fashioned costumes."

"It is so tough trying to convince directors that you can play contemporary parts. I had to do the screen test for the part of Minerva. For period costume dramas, you look placid and just sit there and look awfully sweet. Directors think you can't do anything else."

Helena, who admits to wolfing

down chocolate, went on a diet to play Minerva but says she did not lose as much weight as she wanted to. "I didn't go as far as making myself sick," she said.

But she tried to find out more about this modern-day disease. She said: "When I started to research the role, I realised bulimia is more prevalent in people my own age."

"I also watched a documentary drama called *Catherine* about a girl who almost starved herself to death for seven years. "As if it is not enough that Minerva is bulimic, she is also neurotic, has no logic and is rootless. Her mother is an alcoholic, her father could be her grandfather."

Off-screen, Helena's background is that of a loving and close-knit family. Born into an upper-class family, she denied being a yuppie, although she drives a black Peugeot 205.

Her grandfather was the liberal Prime Minister, Lord Asquith, and her great uncle was the famous film director Anthony "Puffin" Asquith.

Most girls her age cannot wait to get away to live on their own but, for Helena, home-life is her rock of stability. She has two elder brothers Edward and Tom. She is quick to point out that she does not live at home out of duty to her father, who is disabled since suffering a brain tumour 10 years ago.

Wearing a vest and trousers and sitting on the balcony of her luxurious hotel, she said: "It is really nice to come home to my family because they look after me so well. I spend so much time away from home that it is nice to come back to something that is continual and not changing."

Duty "I don't stay at home because of a sense of duty to my father. It is where I want to be. I don't feel it makes me less independent."

And now that her career is steaming ahead, she needs all the family support she can get. For Helena has a handful of films yet to be released including *A Hazard Of Hearts*, *The Mas*, *Getting It Right* and *Francesco*.

In the few years that she has been acting, Helena's work has

taken her to Hollywood where she started as the drug-crazed lover of Don Johnson's character in an episode of *Miami Vice*.

Then she was whisked to Italy to play St. Claire opposite Mickey Rourke in Italian director Liliana Cavani's film *Francesco*. Before Helena left for Italy, she watched Rourke's steamy *9 1/2 Weeks* with her mother and grandmother. She said: "I told them this was the actor I was working with next. My mother thought the film was interesting."

"My grandmother felt casting Mickey as Francesco was perfect. She could understand why Liliana was so determined that he should play Francesco. She said he would be brilliant. It was the vulnerability in his eyes."

Hit But Helena and Mickey did not hit it off. Mickey was very much aware of his movie-actor status whereas Helena is very down-to-earth.

"Mickey was very much the Hollywood star," she said. "He was surrounded by his entourage who would run up to him and tell him what a wonderful actor he is every time he finished a scene."

"He reads his lines from a cue. He was more interested in his Harley Davidson motor-bike than anything else. He is paranoid and hates the press. I didn't have much to do with him."

"There wasn't any rapport between us. I suppose it was because I didn't have blonde hair, long legs and wasn't model-like."

"He didn't really see me. I felt completely invisible. But he was very civil. Everything on the set was catered for him. It was difficult to ignore but I just carried on."

Helena isn't too impressed with Hollywood glitz. She would much rather be a great actress rather than a star. Off-screen she is more into tomboyish clothes than designer numbers.

Her favourite outfit consists of a baggy coat, her grandfather's top hat, father's waistcoat and grandmother's clogs.

"I like to look anonymous so people will not remember or judge me on my sexuality or my looks, but on my ability."



Helena Bonham Carter: trying to break the mould

## Czech sends out rare message

# Thriving on exhaust fumes

By G. Luther Whittington

BEVERLY HILLS, California, (UPI): Somewhere on earth lurks a wide-rumped, short-legged little animal who gobbles high octane petrol like peanuts, thrives on exhaust fumes and frolics in sludge.

Or so a young filmmaker from Czechoslovakia would have us believe in a movie that serves up a rare environmental message wrapped in a tale that rivals *E.T.* in its inventiveness.

The film *Oilglobbers*, by 24-year-old Jan Sverak, recently won the Best Foreign Film award at the 16th Annual Student Film Awards, sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"My first idea was to do a mythical film about a non-existent animal. We wanted to make it like a real scientific, documentary movie. And it was going to be a joke," the soft-spoken Sverak said during an interview. "But then I went to the north, in Bohemia and saw the land destroyed by mining and pollution. I put the two together and we came out with this

movie."

The Czech film brought down the house during the awards ceremony, outgunning American films in technique and quality.

To viewers used to strong message movies such as *Chine Syndrome* and fantasy movies like *E.T.*, a film that mixed both genres was a surprise.

"The film is so crafty and shrewd with its documentary style, that it's really a tribute to cleverness," said screenwriter Brian Risley. "During the first half of the film you're not really sure if it's tongue-in-cheek or not. But then the strong sense of irony and the beautiful pictorial style meld into an especially impressive message."

*Oilglobbers* tells the adventures of a scientific expedition out to observe the habits and activities of a creature that has evolved in the world's barren industrial wastelands.

With a dry style, reminiscent of a National Geographic special, and a feel for broad, colourful vistas, Sverak produced a film strong in characters and special effects.

Halfway through the film the oilglobber itself appears. Sverak created a lovable

creature with sensitive eyes, but a scaly body and large rump pockmarked from scraping around in sludge pits.

One baby oilglobber almost dies when it is brought into fresh air, but then thrives when the scientists allow it to suck up to a tailpipe.

Winning awards is not new to the young filmmaker, who graduates this year from the Faculty of Film and Television in Prague, Czechoslovakia, the same school that produced director-writer Milos Forman, who won the Academy award for his film *Amadeus* and critical praise for the musical *Hair*.

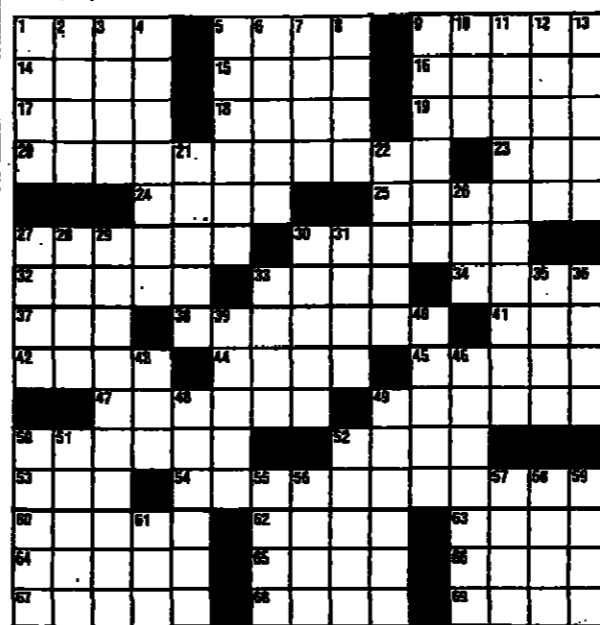
"If I could achieve one-tenth the success of Forman, I would be content," said Sverak, whose first student film, *Space Odyssey II*, won awards at film festivals in Oberhausen, West Germany and Krakow, Poland.

Despite the award, Sverak received no offers from Hollywood agents or producers.

"I guess the language was a problem and then maybe Hollywood just doesn't like (film-makers) to mix our messages," he said.

"When they find the oilglobber in your Appalachia or in Ohio, maybe then Hollywood will pay attention."

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Actor John
  - Seeks the target
  - One of the Aliens
  - Pre-Easter season
  - Depository
  - Summer cotton
  - On "The Love Boat"
  - Fruit of the blackthorn
  - Purpose
  - Generous
  - Cashed city
  - Seaside city
  - Comes together
  - Away from
  - Fashion's Vanderbilt
  - Unprocessed
  - Debatable
  - Winter white
  - Part of HRH
  - glass
  - 506, to Nero
  - Farm females
  - Symbol of engagement
  - Perfect
  - Surviving
  - Certainly not
  - Like some bases
  - Logical
  - Certain
  - Buddhist
  - Dizzy
- DOWN**
- There oughta be —
  - Neighbor of Phoenix
  - Unusual individual
  - Part of SASE
  - State emphatically
  - ease
  - Part of the Devon landscape
  - Editor's instruction
  - Escapee
  - Heavy weight
  - Overbearing
  - Kate's friend
  - Requires
  - Sharpens
  - Play a part
  - Family member, for short
  - Charley horse
- ACROSS**
- Loosen a half-hitch
  - Invisible emanation
  - Brood
  - Austere
  - Tasteless
  - Name for a Dublin lass
  - Attacked
  - Actress Thompson
  - Risque
- DOWN**
- Make coffee
  - Having one's sealings
  - On the way out
  - Garment size
  - Street in many towns
  - White House office
  - Like a fox
  - Singer Lopez
  - Hollywood's Keaton
  - Gal of song
  - Visionary
  - Give in
  - Happy sounds
  - 34 Across, at times
  - City on the Nile delta
  - Fabulous fiddle
  - Chatters
  - Luau
  - entertainment
  - The first Mrs. Copperfield
  - "Iliad," for one
  - Reputable
  - George's lyrical brother

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
HOW TO SEE THROUGH THE CARDS

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

### NORTH

♠ K 6  
♥ A Q 9 3  
♦ A 7 4 2  
♣ J 3 2

### WEST

♠ J 9 8 5 2  
♥ 6 4  
♦ Q 9  
♣ 10 9 6 5

### EAST

♠ A Q 7 3  
♥ J 7  
♦ 10 8 6  
♣ K Q 8 4

### SOUTH

♠ 10 4  
♥ K 10 8 5 2  
♦ K J 5 3  
♣ A 7

The bidding:  
East 1 ♠ South 1 ♥ West 2 ♠ North 1 ♠  
Pass 2 ♦ Pass 2 ♠  
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠  
Certainly the most prolific writer in the U.S., and one of the best, is two-time world champion Mike Lawrence. His latest, *How to Play Card Combinations* (Devyn Press, 227 pp., paperback, \$9.95. Available post free from The Bridge World, 39 W. 94th St., New York, NY 10025), is typical of his style — easy to read, yet covering a complex subject thoroughly. Cover the East-West hands, then consider this problem.

"For the moment, I don't want West on lead to find a spade switch. To stop that, I cover the club and duck when East covers. I don't want West to have an entry with the nine

of clubs.  
"My normal play would be to draw trump and play on diamonds hoping the queen is inside. I can add to this by arranging a position which can make even when the queen is outside.

"I win the club continuation, and play the heart ace and king. These split with East having J 7. Since I need to remove East's club exit, I play to the ace of diamonds and ruff the last club. East plays the king on this and West follows with the nine.

"Should I go to dummy with a heart and finesse in diamonds?

"No. This is an unusual position. If I do finesse in diamonds and they split, I will end up losing two spade tricks.

"I prefer to play the king of diamonds. If West or East drops the queen, I'm home. If no one drops it, I'll lead another diamond. Now, if West wins, the finesse was always offside and it didn't matter what I did. If East has the queen, I could have finessed, but the trick comes back because East is endplayed and I lose only one spade. My play in effect breaks even if East has the queen and gains if West has Q x ... "Heads, I win. Tails, they lose."

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"The wife says, I might as well live down here... how about it, Mabel?"

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EASED TAMALES  
DONKEY FILET  
EDGAR SELF-SERVE  
PIE ECADS OER  
SCRIPTURE REBEL  
MUTTIS GUERRE  
PEOPLES GENRE  
ARRAS MOON ICA  
CONSENTED ERNES  
EDOS FERO REEDS  
RETE ANET SPREE

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart












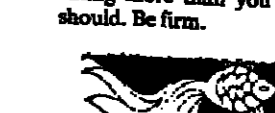


## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

 <p><b>Aries</b> (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>You will have a lot to do so do not waste any time doing it. Try not to allow your animosities to stand in the way of a fair assessment. Do not rely on guesswork. Be a little more affectionate.</p>	 <p><b>Cancer</b> (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>This is going to be an interesting day for you only you must not allow your concentration to be distracted. You will be able to do something you really enjoy doing. You are rather more liable to make mistakes.</p>	 <p><b>Libra</b> (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>You are under mixed influences and you should avoid concerning yourself with secondary matters. Make sure others also know what you mean. Spend a little more time dealing with a personal matter. Be punctual.</p>	 <p><b>Capricorn</b> (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>You should read the instructions carefully before turning on a new device. You will be better able to distinguish what is important from what is not. Do not take anything for granted just now. Be less solemn.</p>
 <p><b>Taurus</b> (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>You should make yourself a little more approachable. Make sure you do all that is needed to meet your commitments. Do not try to pass the buck. Be loyal.</p>	 <p><b>Leo</b> (July 22 - Aug. 21)</p> <p>You will be able to get a move on with something you have under way. You will have to be on your guard against dissipating your energies. There will be something that needs your immediate attention. Be reliable.</p>	 <p><b>Scorpio</b> (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will have plenty to do so try to concentrate hard. Make sure you get all the rest you need. You are in danger of confusing something that is not important with something that is. Be convivial.</p>	 <p><b>Aquarius</b> (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>You will be able to assert yourself but should try not to make others feel resentful. You will not have as much time to spare as you thought you would have. Avoid eating more than you know you should. Be firm.</p>
 <p><b>Gemini</b> (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>You should stand by a friend of yours who is in some kind of trouble. You should avoid making up your mind on the spur of the moment. Venus' less favourable influence means you will have to work harder at your love life. Be objective.</p>	 <p><b>Virgo</b> (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</p> <p>Do not try to do too many things all at once. The Moon's influence will tend to make you more vulnerable. You should not take everything quite so literally. Be more amicable.</p>	 <p><b>Sagittarius</b> (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>Mars' better influence will help you to cope with a difficult situation. Do all you can to maintain harmony with your partner. You should not take things quite at their face value. Be tolerant.</p>	 <p><b>Pisces</b> (Feb. 19 - March 19)</p> <p>You will be able to make good progress with a project that is important to you. You will succeed but not exactly in the way you had intended. Try to avoid being inconsistent. Be more moderate.</p>



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### Available

KUWAIT City, Fahd Salem Street, opp. bldg to Alghanim Pharmacy, for Goan bachelors to share with Indian family. Tele. 2412316.

(AT4-48373-3)

SALWA, house 196, block 7, 3 rooms with water, electricity and tele. for an Indian family to share with an Indian family. Bus 34, 102, 502. Rent KD 50. Tele. 5611243.

(AT5-48318-6)

KHEITAN behind Granada Cinema, 5 minutes from bus stop for bachelors/family to share with Goan family. Tele. Angela/Michael 486427 9 am - 6 pm.

(AT4-48373-3)

KUWAIT City near Meridian Hotel, one separate room in CAC flat for a single bachelor only. Tele. 4719023 (from 8-11 am & 4-6 pm) or 2411882 (Res).

(AT4-DN/TM-3)

SHARING accommodation available for a working lady with an Indian family. Rent KD 55. Tele. 4744345, 8 am - 1 pm.

(AT4-48363-3)

SHARQ behind the Firdous Cinema, near Goraya Saloon, 3 rooms available with electricity and water for a family only. Tele. Ansa Essa, 2435100, 7 am - 1 pm.

(AT3-48344-2)

### For Rent

ARABIAN style villa near the Sheraton Hotel in a quiet neighbourhood with all furniture, appliances, A/Cs etc. KD 4000 (negotiable) to current owner. KD 300 rent. Tele. Mr Shureih 2433467/4817539.

(AT4-48365-3)

SALMIYA, near the shopping centre new 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom flat with telephone from September. Rent KD 180 with water. Tele. 5616806, after 2.30 pm.

(AT3-48353-3)

QURTOBA, 2 storey villa, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 halls, A/C, carpets, annex garden, garage. Rent KD 600. Tele. 5324848.

(AT4-48359-3)

SURRA, area 4, Street 10, House 18, 3-bedroom flat with 3 big saloons and 5 bathrooms, CAC.

(AT3-48346-3)

OMARIYA, very near Airport Road, one room for family with Pakistani family with water and electricity. KD 50. Tele. Mahmood 4736004.

(AT4-48372-3)

## FOR SALE

### Boats

LASER sailboat with road trailer, launching trolley and two sails, reasonable condition, KD 250 ono. Tele. 3721423/5 ext. 250 after 3 pm.

(AT2-48342-3)

### Cars

CHEVROLET Citation 1980, four-door hatchback, green colour, A/C automatic, in very good running conditions. Tele. K.V. Murty, 5726356.

(AT3-48347-3)

NISSAN Liberta 1984, full automatic, open ceiling, insured for one year, golden colour. Tele. 5618474.

(AT4-48367-3)

CAPRICE Classic, 1986, white, 28,500 miles, great runner, owner leaving Kuwait, very good condition. KD 400 to owner, KD 82 per month. Tele. 3721423/5 ext. 250 after 3 pm.

(AT2-48342-3)

1983 Opel Senator, 6 cyle, full automatic, green clr, very good. KD 700. Tele. Presley, 5744136.

(AT4-48362-2)

TOYOTA Cressida 1985, full automatic, sunroof, beige, A/C, excellent condition, KD 1950 ono or cash. Tele. Mr Shureih 2433467/4817539.

(AT4-48365-3)

WILLYS jeep 1974, 6 cylinder, new soft top and tyres, owner leaving Kuwait, Quick sale required. KD 300. Tele. David, 3983129.

(AT3-48348-3)

HONDA CRX '87 model, in very good condition, KD 1750 ONO. Tele. 4741367.

(AT3-48355-3)

HONDA Accord, hatchback, Nov. 83, automatic, 65,000 kms, one lady owner, immaculate condition. KD 950. Tele. Mrs Dianne 5335852.

(AT4-48375-3)

1979 Mercedes 280SEL, automatic, A/C. Good condition, KD 1100 cash. Tele. 5325321.

(AT4-48370-3)

### Furniture

VARIOUS carpets, tables, sideboards and desks must go cheap. Owner leaving Kuwait, must sell quickly. Tele. 3721423/5 ext. 250 after 3 pm.

(AT2-48342-3)

DOUBLE bedroom suite in blue, single bedroom suite in white, dining table with 6 chairs, sofa set 7 seats, glass tables. Tele. D.G. Brooks, 4885237.

(AT3-48345-3)

JABRIYA — 3/4 bedroom ground floor flat, swimming pool fitted kitchen. Rent KD 525, entire contents — carpets, curtains for sale. Tele. Mr Bob 5335852.

(AT4-48373-3)

### Miscellaneous

AS new, saloon-barber mirrored work unit, three mirrors KD 250, gray, pink seven seater sofa unit with 3 side tables KD 250, 2 pink armchairs KD 50, pink coffee table KD 20, 2 pink blenders KD 35. Tele. Mrs Brennan, 5724895 or 9021311.

(AT3-48349-2)

TWO bicycles, 20 inches, in good condition. Video camera Sanyo, Amiga 2000 computer, monitor with security camera, Bosh. Tele. 5325321.

(AT4-48370-3)

# MARKET PLACE

FLAT in Salmiya. Rent KD 140, tel bedroom, 2 video, 1 TV, big Fridge/air washing machine, 2 A/C, saloon dining room hifi system. Tele. Presley 5744136.

(AT4-48362-2)

GOING cheap — fully automatic washing machine, multi purpose wall unit, sofa-cum-bed/set, writing table, plants, carpets, curtains, excellent condition for KD 250/- Tele. 2404547, 12.00 noon - 4 pm.

(AT4-48358-2)

## NAME CHANGE

I hereby change my name from Mahmud Khan Ismail Khan to Nazir Mohamed, holder of Indian passport No. F9068042.

(AT3-48354-2)

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## SITUATIONS

### Wanted

ACCOUNTANT, Indian, 10 years in Kuwait with knowledge of P.C. and all office routine works, seeks immediate employment No. 18, visa transferable. Tele. Sukumar, 4317243.

(AT3-48352-3)

EXECUTIVE Secretary/office asst., highly experienced in self-correspondence, fax, telex, shorthand, typing and conversant with banking, L/Cs, air/sea cargo clearing formalities seeks post. Visa transferable. Tele. 2419420 (mornings) 5656927 (evenings).

(AT4-48364-3)

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REQUIRED maid for Nigerian ambassador's residence in Kuwait, live-in. Tele. 5320794/5.

(AT4-48371-3)

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(AT3-48351-3)

DRIVER, Indian, for family, full time, Salmiya. Visa No. 18 or 20. Visa will be arranged. Tele. Mr Nikhil 2404548 12.00 to 4.00 pm.

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# Johnson may not lose 100m record

TORONTO, July 17. (Reuters) A senior Canadian athletics official said Ben Johnson would not necessarily lose his world 100 metres title and world record because of tough anti-doping rules proposed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), the Canadian press reported yesterday.

"There is nothing here to go after the world record of Ben Johnson," Paul Dupre, president of the Canadian Track and Field Association, told the news agency in an

interview from Vienna where the IAAF held an informal council meeting.

The rules drafted at the meeting say records or titles held by athletes who confess to having taken banned substances "will no longer stand," but the meeting was not proposing the rules be retroactive, Dupre said.

Dupre told the Canadian press the rules would "be for the future." They would be installed if passed by the 182-member congress of the international athletics governing body in Barcelona in September.

"I don't think at the moment, any rule that went through the congress would suggest retroactivity. That certainly was not the atmosphere prevailing here this weekend. That may come in September, but right now, what is to be brought forward is something for the future," said Dupre.

The rule proposed on Saturday said: "Any world, continental or national record and any title held by an athlete who admits having committed a doping offence will no longer stand."

# Expos win 'ugly' game

## Dodgers overcome Cardinals

NEW YORK, July 17. (AP) The Montreal Expos and the Cincinnati Reds combined for six errors — four by the Expos — 17 walks, four wild pitches, a passed ball and 26 strikeouts in a game the Expos won 6-3.

"That was an ugly ball game," Montreal's Otis Nixon said. "I don't know what was going on."

Nixon eventually saw enough of that kind of baseball for one Sunday afternoon. So, after Nelson Santovenia snapped an 0-for-8 slump with an RBI single off Kent Tekulve, 0-3, to put the Expos ahead 4-3 in the 12th inning, Nixon hit a two-run double to cap a three-run rally.

The Reds intentionally walked Andres Galarraga with two out to load the bases for Nixon. That was perfect for Nixon, who was 3-for-8 with eight RBIs in bases-loaded at-bats this season.

"I wish they could fill them up for me every time," Nixon said. He lined a double to left-centre for two more runs, and Tim

Burke allowed one hit in the bottom of the inning as he held the lead for his 19th save. Steve Frey, 3-0, gave up two hits in the 11th but pitched out of the threat for the victory.

Scott Garrelts came off the disabled list to pitch six innings of two-hit ball as the San Francisco Giants downed the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1.

Tim Lincecum, making his first start since June 20, pitched six innings of two-hit ball as the San Francisco Giants downed the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1.

Tim Lincecum, making his first start since June 20, pitched six innings of two-hit ball as the San Francisco Giants downed the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1.

Darrell Evans hit the 408th and 409th home runs of his career, breaking out of a tie for 21st place all-time, to lead the Atlanta Braves over the New York Mets 6-2 in a game delayed by rain three times for a total of 2 1/2 hours.

Tim Flannery's pinch-hit sacrifice fly with the bases loaded in the sixth inning climaxed a two-run rally as the San Diego Padres beat the Chicago Cubs 4-3, the third consecutive defeat for Chicago.

Charles Hudson won for the first time in a year as Detroit got three home runs yesterday and beat the Seattle Mariners 8-5 to end a 10-game losing streak. The Tigers' longest since June 1982.

Hudson, 1-4, had lost seven consecutive decisions since beating Texas on July 4, 1988. He allowed six hits in 6 1/3 innings, becoming the first Detroit starter to win in 22 games since Frank Tanana defeated Oakland on June 19. Edwin Nunez finished for his first save.

Tracy Jones hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Lou Whitaker and Alan Trammell hit consecutive home runs in the fifth. Gene Harris, 1-2, allowed four runs and six hits in two innings.

He left with a bruised right forearm after he was hit by Dave Bergman's line drive. Seattle had its five-game winning streak snapped and lost for only the fourth time in 17 games.

Terry Steinbach hit his second career Grand Slam and Mike Moore, 12-5, won his fourth straight start, allowing six hits in six innings as the Oakland A's beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-2. Greg Cadaret pitched a six-hitter in his second career start as the New York Yankees blasted the Kansas City Royals 10-1.

League	Team	W	L	SV	IP	RA	ER	BB	SO
American League	Kansas City	1	2	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Baltimore	3	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Cleveland	11	1	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Detroit	3	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Oakland	6	2	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Minnesota	4	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Chicago	2	4	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
National League	New York	2	2	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Atlanta	6	2	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Montreal	3	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Los Angeles	3	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	San Diego	4	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	San Francisco	2	3	0	10.0	10	10	1	10
	Houston	1	4	0	10.0	10	10	1	10

# Pugh beats Lundgren for crown

NEWPORT, R.I., July 17. (Reuters) Doubles star Jim Pugh of the United States beat Sweden's Peter Lundgren 6-4-6 yesterday to capture his first Grand Prix singles title at the \$155,000 Hall of Fame tennis championships.

The unseeded American, the top doubles player in the world but ranked 63rd in singles, avenged a loss to sixth-seeded and 48th-ranked Lundgren in the 1987 San Francisco final, the only previous time they had played.

"It's a big achievement," said Pugh, who won \$25,000. "I showed myself I am a singles player, too. I'm very proud of that because I knew that I could play singles but never had anything to show it."

Pugh, 25, had reached just two previous singles finals.

After winning his semifinal match, Pugh predicted that the champion would be the player who controlled the net. He made his prophecy come true with deceptive serving and his ability to disguise his volleys with two-handed shots from both sides.

His consistent play forced Lundgren into errors.

"I was always under and that's a tough feeling," said the 24-year-old Swede. "He forced me to make mistakes."

Lundgren evened the match at one set apiece with a break in the 10th game of the second set, but then was broken in the first game of the third set. Pugh broke the Swede again in the fifth game of the set and closed it out at 6-2 for the match.

Lundgren, who had won three of the four previous finals he reached, earned \$12,500.

"I congratulate Jim on his first Grand Prix title," said Lundgren, making his second appearance at Newport, the only grass court tournament remaining in the United States. "I know the feeling and it's nice."

# Tennis final postponed

BOSTON, July 17. (Reuters) The final of the \$415,000 US Pro Tennis Championships between second-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden and sixth-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador was postponed yesterday because of rain.

Because of scheduling conflicts for Wilander and Gomez, tournament officials were forced to reschedule the match for sometime later this summer when convenient for both players.

Wilander, a two-time champion here, was seeking his first title since last October when Gomez had reached his first final of the year.

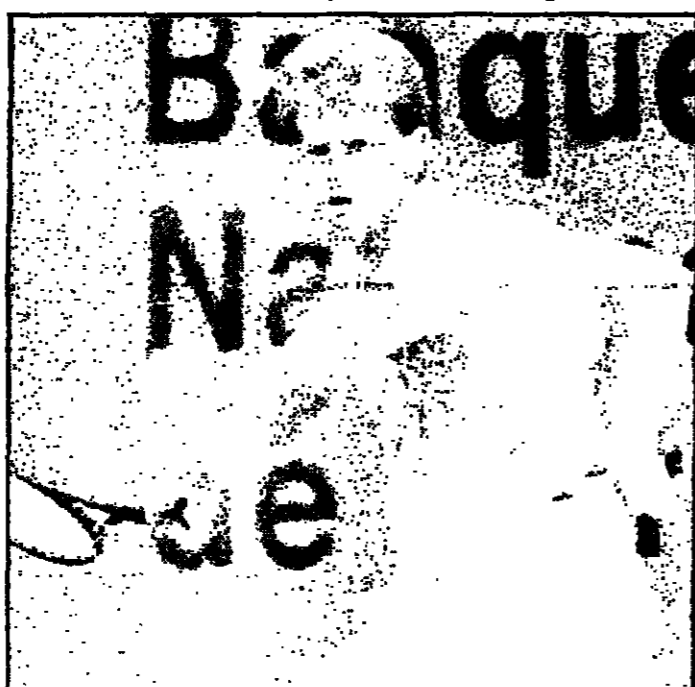
# Yugoslavia win

BERLIN, July 17. (AP) Defending champion Yugoslavia won the FINA World Cup water polo tournament in West Berlin yesterday, decisively defeating Italy 10-6.

Hungary trimmed Spain 8-7 for a third-place finish.

# Former Wimbledon champion injured

## Edberg may miss Cup



Edberg, sprained his ankle

STOCKHOLM, July 17. (Reuters) Former Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg has sprained his right ankle during practice and may not be fit for the Davis Cup semifinal against Yugoslavia in Bastad this weekend, Sweden's team captain said today.

"Stefan is resting after the injury. I still don't know whether he'll play or not. We'll have to wait and see," said non-playing captain Jontie Sjogren.

He said if necessary Jan Gunnarsson would replace Edberg, the world's third-ranked player who lost his Wimbledon title to West German Boris Becker eight days ago.

Mats Wilander, Jonas Svensson and Anders Jarryd complete the Swedish squad, who are aiming to reach their seventh successive Davis Cup final. They have emerged victorious from three of them but were humbled 4-1 by West Germany last year.

The defending champions play the United States in Munich in this weekend's other semifinal.

# Campese considers retirement

SYDNEY, July 17. (Reuters) Mercurial Australian winger David Campese considered retiring after his horrendous blunder helped the British Lions clinch victory in the decisive third rugby union Test, newspapers reported yesterday.

Australia were leading the Lions 12-9 shortly after half-time on Saturday when Campese, attempting to run the ball from behind his own goal line, threw a rash pass to fullback Greg Martin.

Martin dropped the ball and Lions winger Iwan Tuk did the rest. The Lions never lost the lead again, winning the game 19-18 and the series 2-1.

"It's not a nice feeling at the moment," Campese

told Sydney's Daily Telegraph. "Particularly when you hear people saying I lost the game for us."

"I just feel like retiring but I guess it depends on how I feel when I settle down a bit."

The Australian newspaper reported Campese, the most prolific try-scorer in Test history, would attempt to revive his reputation in the August 5 match against New Zealand.

"I believe I now have a point to prove after yesterday's performance. I want to stay in Australian rugby," he was quoted as saying.

Newspapers reported Campese had turned down a \$75,000 dollar (\$430,000) three-year contract to play for Britain's St Helens.

# Prost sets up third world motor racing title charge

## Former champion moves 20 points clear



Mansell (left) and Prost hold their trophies after the British Grand Prix. (Reuters wirephoto)

The result, a repeat of last week's Prost-Mansell finish at the French Grand Prix, means Prost has reached the halfway stage of the season with 47 points to Senna's 27.

"I was very happy when I saw Ayrton spin off," Prost admitted afterwards. "I have to be honest. It means I now have a 20-point lead in the championship and that is something I have not had before in my Formula One career."

Prost finished the 64-lap race in a winning time of one hour 19 minutes 22.131 seconds.

Mansell, who raised a strong challenge in the second half of the race after being forced to pit by a puncture, finished 19.369 seconds behind.

"We have proved the reliability of the car with two successive second places," he

said. "But there is no realistic chance of me winning the championship this year. I am aiming for the title in 1990."

Italian Alessandro Nannini, who recovered from an early pit stop to storm through the field in thrilling style, claimed third place for Benetton and former world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil took fourth place for Lotus.

The Minardis of Pierluigi

# Major probe launched into use of drugs at meet

OSLO, July 17. (Reuters) A chance find by a local journalist has prompted a major probe into possible doping at a European Cup Combined athletics meeting in Norway that brought together some of the world's most versatile sportsmen and women.

Sports journalist Rolf Nordberg found an ampoule containing traces of a banned substance under a bench at the weekend competition at Toensberg in southern Norway. He then alerted officials.

"Tests showed that it contained a banned substance and we are now checking other empty ampoules and some syringes that we found in the garbage cans," a top official at the Norwegian Sports Confederation said today.

"I am shocked and disappointed," Rune Andersen, the confederation's doping consultant, told Reuters.

"It seems pretty likely that someone used these substances, although we have no direct evidence."

The ampoule found near the long-jump pit contained a mixture of corticosteroids and testosterone.

Andersen said a search through garbage in the athletes' changing rooms had turned up half a dozen other empty ampoules and two syringes that required investigation. "They could just contain vitamins, but we'll see," he said.

The results of the tests would not be known for several weeks, he said. Ten random doping tests were carried out, seven on men and three on women, during the two-day competition.

Competitions like the one at Toensberg tax the body to the limit for many hours in several different events — seven for women and 10 for men, all making varied demands on the athlete.

East Germany won both the men's and women's team event in the 12-nation meeting, attended by star performers like Olympic decathlon champion Christian Schenk, France's Christian Flahaut, Britain's Daley Thompson and East Germany's Anke Behmer.

Hans Skaset, told the daily Verdens Gang that there was no proof anyone had taken substances banned in international sport.

Graphic display of the Royal Troon golf course. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Happy hunting ground for US golfers

## Troon's history colourful

TROON, Scotland, July 17. (Reuters) American golfers, overshadowed by their European counterparts in recent years, could find the Royal Troon site of this week's British Open golf championship a happy hunting ground.

No European has won the Open here in 66 years, and Americans have prevailed on the last three occasions.

Troon's history as an Open venue is sparse compared with most of the other six courses on the rota, but the five Opens played here this century have been peppered with the deeds of US invaders.

At the last Open here in 1982, a hitherto unheralded Californian named Bobby Clampett grabbed Troon by the throat and extracted rounds of 67 and 66 from for a seven-stroke halfway lead.

Then every conceivable misfortune befell him in round three and he dropped back as another US-based player, Nick Price of Zimbabwe, began his run at the title.

Price had it all but locked up on the closing day, needing only to par the last six holes — two over would have been enough to win, as it turned out.

But Price dropped four shots by the time he reached the 18th, where he required a birdie to force a playoff.

He did not get it, and so handed the venerable silver claret jug to Tom Watson, who had been waiting in the clubhouse for a full hour.

"I didn't win this Open. Nick gave it to me," Watson said later.

The course that year was toughened with the addition of four bunkers from the layout that tall American Tom Weiskopf won on nine years earlier.

Weiskopf captured the title with a 12-under-par 276 total which equalled the Open record set at

Troon 11 years earlier.

Winning meant so much to Weiskopf that he named his house after the famous links.

But the spotlight on the first day in 1973 shone brightly on a septuagenarian who had played his first Open here 50 years earlier.

American Gene Sarazen, aged 21 in 1923, came to Troon fresh from his US Open victory. But he did not survive the 36-hole qualifying competition in operation at that time.

In 1973 he marked his sentimental return by holing in one on the famous "Postage Stamp" eighth.

He later wrote: "I felt there was no better way to close the books on my tournament play than to make a hole-in-one at the Postage Stamp."

The 1962 Open at Troon was won for the second successive year by Arnold Palmer. It was known as the "Bounce Golf" Open because a severe drought left the links rock-hard, the ball kicking haphazardly off humped fairways into the thick rough.

Palmer coped well enough to win by six shots, setting the record that Weiskopf matched, though it has been broken several times since.

Artificial watering was installed after that 1962 Open to prevent a repetition of those conditions — a good thing considering the recent dry spell in Scotland.

The tournament was also marred by crowd control problems, which resulted in several measures being taken before it returned.

At the 1950 Open, in stark contrast to Sarazen's hole in one, West German amateur Herman Tiesies took 15 shots at the Postage Stamp. He found all three bunkers, took five to get out of one of them, and then three-putted.

# King wins US Open for fifth triumph of season



King raises her arms in victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

LAKE ORION, Mich., July 17. (Reuters) Betsy King won the 1989 US Women's Open golf championship by four strokes yesterday for her fifth tournament victory of the season.

King shot a three-under-par 68 in the final round to finish the tournament at six-under-par 278. Nancy Lopez, who also shot a 68, was next at two under.

King had started the day tied with Patty Sheehan at three-under par for the tournament.

King had five birdies and two bogeys while Sheehan sank out of contention with four bogeys.

"Winning the Open is something you think about as a kid. It's certainly a dream come true for me," said King. "By the eighth hole, I didn't feel like it was going to be Patty's day."

King, who won \$80,000 and became the first LPGA player to surpass the \$500,000 mark in single-season earnings, added: "The five wins mean a lot more to me than the money. This will probably be the year of my life, golf-wise."

# Fraioli dashes away after high score

TROON, Scotland, July 17. (Reuters) High-scoring American Robert Fraioli caused consternation among British Open golf championship officials in yesterday's qualifying competition.

He began his round at Western Gailes with three successive double-bogey sixes then took 10 at the 14th.

Fraioli, who said he comes from New York, managed to get round in 94 before dashing from the course.

Partner Ross Drummond said they searched for Fraioli's ball eight times over the last five holes. "He did not know where it had gone when he hit it," said Drummond.

Another player declared: "If he is a professional I'll eat my hat."

Dick Muckart, an official with the organising Royal and Ancient Golf Club who try to vet entries, said: "Fraioli is a member of the American PGA and his entry is therefore correct and we had no reason to doubt that."

Welshman Mark Evans went to Western Gailes to bid for an Open place but he should have gone to Glasgow Gailes, another course.

He turned up at the correct course 10 minutes late and was disqualified.

# Sluman fires 7-under-par 66 for victory

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 17. (AP) Jeff Sluman of the United States led from start to finish to win the one-million dollar Belgian Classic golf tournament yesterday, in a field dominated by Americans.

Starting strongly Friday with a seven under-par-66, only one shot above the all-time record of the Royal Golf Club of Belgium, Sluman kept his lead with a 71 Saturday and repeated it yesterday to finish with a total of 208, 11-under-par.

American Scott Simpson, who twice shot a 70 Saturday and yesterday, ended second with 212, seven under par.

Countrymen Andy Bean shot a 71 yesterday, his best score in the tournament, and took third place with 216, three-under-par.

American Larry Mize also improved on the last day and moved to fourth with 217, two-under-par.

Chip Beck fell down the last day and ended fifth with 220, one above par.

## Open letter to Philippine community

TO: My Kababayan. Being the chairman of Palaro 1989, it is my duty together with my associates, to see that everything goes right and impose what is right for the best of the community.

This is not the first time, that I hold this position, for, in 1983, I was also the vice-president of Sports and Recreations of this same association (Kapilku). Fortunately, the Palaro '83 was held under the atmosphere of camaraderie and sportsmanship. But, this year Palaro is the opposite of the good old days. WHY? Because some of our friends are deviating from the rules promulgated by the International Basketball Committee and so with our house rules.

In our house rules, nothing is mentioned about score difference in case of triple tie, but points for and points against which was clearly defined on our last Sunday issue of our local English newspapers.

Quotient system — another term which was used by our friends. Another term with no bearing on score difference. The only quotient system used in breaking the triple tie as per international rules is the goal average, this is the next rule to be implemented in case the other rules failed to break the tie. Goal average is the total scores divided by the number of games, a wise rule of the international federation for teams to adhere for the following reasons:

- More goals, to avoid game fixing, for you need to score to be qualified.
- More goals, thus require more concentration on the game and not hitting your opponent.
- More goals, thus require practice and expertise for a better and worthy team.
- More goals, so that professionalism in basketball, be met.
- More goals, to prove that you are better than the others.

Mga kaibigan, if we are not going to implement the right rules, who will, what will happen to our next year Palaro, and the years to come, we must be flexible for the good of the masses.

We, the organising committee, if we will use the house rules extracted from the international rules, KPBC will be out and on the other hand if we will use the rules extracted from the verbal interpretations, Magnolia team will be out.

Since the organising committee considered the flaws created, for not defining the rules properly, we arrived on a unanimous decision to accommodate all the teams in question to enter the semi-final and may the best team win using the international rules.

Regarding the Palaro expenses, our committee and my humble self would like to invite all concerned that the book or records of the Palaro '89 is open to the public, so at least, proper figures can be given to the press, and I hope that you can contribute so I can reimburse some of the expenses I personally paid.

Magnolia team is mine? I, however, spend more time with KPBC and Greek House teams than all other teams combined. And most of all mga kababayan at mga kapatid, let us be together, be friends, be united, don't let other people run our Palaro, let this Palaro be our palaro.

Freddie Fernando, KPBC, vice-president, Sports & Recreations.

# Waddle to sign for Marseille, but no Maradona

MARSEILLE, France, July 17, (Reuters): England international Chris Waddle will sign for Marseille tomorrow, Jean Bernes, manager of the French League and Cup winners said yesterday.

Problems apparently arose over the English-language translation of Waddle's contract but these appear to have been overcome.

Waddle's transfer is reported to be worth 45 million francs \$6.8 million,

the highest ever paid by a French club for a British player.

Bernes ended speculation that Diego Maradona might leave Napoli for Marseille. "It's not worth speaking about it. The whole thing was just a

story blown up by the press," he said. Marseille, with French national team captain Manuel Amoros signed from Monaco, are poised to add fellow international Jean Tigana.

"Jean Tigana's transfer should be

settled in our favour on Monday," Bernes said.

Other acquisitions in Marseille's bid to create a European "super team" ahead of next weekend's start to the French season include Brazilian

defender Carlos Mozer and Bordeaux's French international defender Alain Roche. Metz's French international striker Carmelo Micciche has also been loaned to Marseille for a year.

## Brazil edge past Uruguay for title

### Argentina finish in third place

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 17, (Reuters): Brazil beat holders Uruguay 1-0 (half-time 0-0) at the Maracana Stadium yesterday to win the South American soccer championship for the first time since 1949.

Striker Romario of Dutch side PSV Eindhoven scored in the 49th minute, heading a cross from the right by Mazinho past goalkeeper Javier Zeoli.

Urged on by a capacity crowd of 170,000, Brazil were the dominant team for most of a tense match in which fighting spirit played a bigger part than skill.

Only after conceding the goal did Uruguay come out of a defensive shell. But with forwards Ruben Sosa, Enzo Francescoli and Antonio Alzazendi tightly checked, they found little space as they went in search of an equaliser.

Tough Brazil held the initiative, they found few gaps and were reduced in the first half to forcing two saves from Javier Zeoli from free kicks.

Chilean referee Hernan Silca had a difficult time trying to keep the match under control and the tackles began to get rough. He booked Uruguayans Santiago Stola and Sosa and Brazil's Branco.

Uruguay had their best chance

in the 73rd minute when Francescoli shot just wide after exchanging passes with Sosa.

Rosario also put the ball in the net in the 77th minute but was ruled offside.

World champions Argentina drew 0-0 with Paraguay yesterday and took third place on goal difference.

Argentina, a far cry from the brilliant side that won the World Cup in 1986, finished a disappointing tournament on a poor note, having scored only two goals in seven matches, none in the final round.

Paraguay, also poor in their last appearance, conceded six goals to Argentina's four in three matches in the final round.

Paraguay controlled the midfield in the first half through 17-year-old Gustavo Neffa, but seldom troubled Nery Pumpido in Argentina's goal.

Argentina, without Diego Maradona and speedy striker Claudio Caniggia, were forced back into defence until they gradually became organised and evened the match.

Colombian referee Jesus Diaz refused Paraguay's heated penalty claims when an Argentine defender appeared to handle the ball in the 26th minute. He awarded a free kick just outside the penalty area.

Argentina took control of



Bebeto (left) and Uruguay's Hugo de Leon fight for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

Argentina took control of the second half and attacked more but were easily forced into mistakes by the experienced Paraguayan defence in which Juan Torres won a record 77th cap.

The star of the tournament has been Bebeto, an unlikely tower of strength with his slight frame and boyish looks, helped hold Brazil together through early troubles and inspired them to victory. The slim 25-year-old, new idol

of popular Rio de Janeiro side Flamengo as Zico's career draws to a close, took to heart the animosity of Brazil's fans in the qualifying stage of the tournament in his native Salvador.

He celebrated his goal against Venezuela in Brazil's first match by clenching a fist defiantly at the crowd and later said he was ashamed when he saw fans tearing up a Brazilian flag.

Salvador fans reacted violently when coach Sebastiao Lazaroni left local star Charles out of his 20-man squad.

Bebeto was top scorer in the tournament, storming back with two against Paraguay after being dropped for a game while Lazaroni experimented with a different striker.

He showed great stealth in the penalty area to shake off markers and agility to reach difficult balls and convert them into goals or near misses with both feet or his head.

Bebeto does not like to be compared with Zico, whom he considers a more complete player. "I have a lot to learn from him," Bebeto said.

Like Zico before him, Bebeto underwent a body-building programme after arriving at Flamengo late in 1982 a skinny 18-year-old who looked 14. "Despite all his talent, we felt

that unless something was done quickly, he would not get far, because he would be at risk in hard physical challenges for the ball," said Flamengo team doctor Giuseppe Taranto.

Brazil and former Flamengo team-mate Aldair hit out at accusations that Bebeto was afraid of hard tackling. He said: "Many accuse Bebeto of being scared but knowing that he would always lose out in bodily contact, he makes use of his speed and intelligence to make the most of each situation."

An intensely religious and emotional man, Bebeto said he was not ashamed to admit he often cries, either with happiness or because he was sad.

"After scoring a goal...I usually cry, not only because of the happiness of the goal, but also because of my brother, who died in a plane crash. He was my friend and counsellor. I miss him a lot and know he is up there helping me," he said.

Bebeto missed Brazil's disastrous tour of Europe last month when Lazaroni's team lost to Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland.

He was touring Europe with his agent looking for a club. He has yet to renew his contract with Flamengo which expired last month.

## Arabs push toward soccer stardom

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 17, (AP): A young Saudi Arabian team's victory over Scotland in last month's under-16 world championships show how the Arabs are emerging as a force in a sport long dominated by Europe and South America.

The 5-4 defeat by the Saudis in an extra-time shootout, after turning around a 0-2 halftime deficit, rocked the soccer-crazy Scots, who boast one of the world's top national squads.

But the Saudis' first win in a world-class tournament had their countrymen jumping for joy. Forty thousand packed Jeddah's sports stadium to greet the young Saudi stars when they returned home.

Dressed in garlands of flowers, hailed by King Fahd as national heroes, the youngsters watched as their fans performed

traditional Arab dances before them.

That was pretty tame compared to the celebrations in Iraq when its national squad won last summer's Arab Cup championship.

Anti-aircraft tracer shells lit the night sky over Baghdad and small arms fire echoed through the city for hours as Iraqis fired in the air.

For all this, the Arabs don't rank with the Europeans and South Americans yet. But the game's popularity is growing in the Arab world as its players' skills improve.

Arab, particularly North African soccer, made its major impact in the 1982 World Cup series and events since have shown it is now coming of age.

Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United

Arab Emirates have made it through to the second round of the 1990 World Cup preliminaries.

Syria defeated France in the 1987 Mediterranean Games, and the Saudi national team surprised England by holding them to a draw in a friendly match last year.

From Algeria to Yemen, "everybody," plays football. "Everybody," said Mustafa Agha, a television sports commentator and university drama professor in Damascus, Syria.

While soccer has been a major sport for decades in Europe or South America, "We've only had 25 years, not more. But we're advancing very quickly," Agha noted.

In colonial days, particularly in North Africa, soccer clubs provided an outlet for nationalist

sentiment and a rallying point for national identity. During Algeria's Independence War, the National Liberation Front soccer team provided more than just propaganda victories.

A team that included several Algerian professionals who played for French clubs toured 12 countries. They played 53 matches, won 39, drew 10 and lost only four.

Arab soccer has produced several stars who have played in major League clubs in Europe.

Algerian midfielder Mustafah Rahab Madjer, considered one of the best players to emerge from North Africa, scored the winning goal for Porto of Portugal in its 1987 victory in the European Champion's Cup. He also played for Spain's First Division club Valencia.

## Lemond worries about team support

ORCIERES-MERLETTE, France, July 17, (Reuters): American Greg Lemond, back in the coveted Tour de France leader's yellow jersey, spent today's rest day trying to work out how to win the race without team support.

Lemond, competing in his first Tour since winning the race in 1986, believes he has already

shown he is the best rider but doubts whether he can achieve victory in Paris next Sunday with his weak ADT team.

"Nobody's riding better than me from an individual point of view," he said. "If this was fair and square racing, I should win the Tour de France."

"But the Tour will come down to a matter of teams. Don't

expect me to control the whole race. I will have to take the chances when I can."

Lemond, who took back the yellow jersey he held for five days earlier in the race from Frenchman Laurent Fignon in yesterday's 15th stage individual time trial, knows the next two days are crucial.

## Costa Rica win

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, July 17, (AP): A header by striker Pastor Fernandez yesterday gave Costa Rica a 1-0 victory over El Salvador and a firmer grip on a berth in the World Cup final.

Fernandez' goal at the 45th minute of play upped Costa Rica's tally to 11 points, virtually enough to give it the first of two World Cup places reserved for the North, Central American and Caribbean qualifying round.

## Cook helps Somerset blast past Glamorgan

### Lancashire close gap on Essex

LONDON, July 17, (Reuters): South African opener Jimmy Cook sustained his outstanding first season in English county cricket by hitting his seventh century by hitting his seventh century for Somerset yesterday.

Cook made 114 — his third hundred in the 40 overs Sunday League — to increase his aggregate of runs in all county competitions to 2,272 and set up an 81-run win over Glamorgan at Taunton.

Cook and Peter Coebuck (63) put on 176 — a Somerset first wicket record in the League — which provided the platform for a daunting total of 249 for six.

Glamorgan's chances of success were effectively undermined by Somerset captain and off-spinner Vic Marks, who snapped up four wickets for five runs in 17 deliveries. The Welsh county ended with 168 for eight.

England all-rounder Ian Botham made up for an expensive spell of bowling by lashing a brilliant half century to help champions Worcestershire to a last-ball win by six wickets over Yorkshire at Scarborough.



Vic Marks



Tim Curtis



Kevin Saxelby

Botham's medium-pace bowler Kevin Saxelby, 12th man when his county won the Benson and Hedges Cup final off the last ball at Lord's on Saturday, stole the spotlight with his League best of six for 30 against Leicestershire.

Saxelby dismissed both Leicestershire openers and returned to polish off the tail as the home team crumbled to 146 all out in reply to Notts' 182 for nine.

Second-placed Lancashire closed the gap on leaders Essex, who were without a match, to

two points by edging to a three wickets victory over Northamptonshire at Old Trafford.

Veteran off-spinner Jack Simmons captured three for 31 as Northants slumped to 139 out, and former England opener Graeme Fowler (53 not out) anchored Lancashire, who got home at 136 for seven.

Results At Scarborough: Worcestershire beat Yorkshire by six wickets, Yorkshire 204 for seven innings closed (K. Sharpe 80, P. Carrick 48 not out),

Yorkshire 208 for four innings closed (T. Curtis 79, I. Botham 68), Worcestershire 4 points.

At Bristol: Gloucestershire beat Hampshire by 21 runs. Gloucestershire 184 for eight innings closed (A. Wright 41 not out, M. Nicholas four for 30), Hampshire 163 in 38.1 overs (K. James 66), Gloucester 4 points.

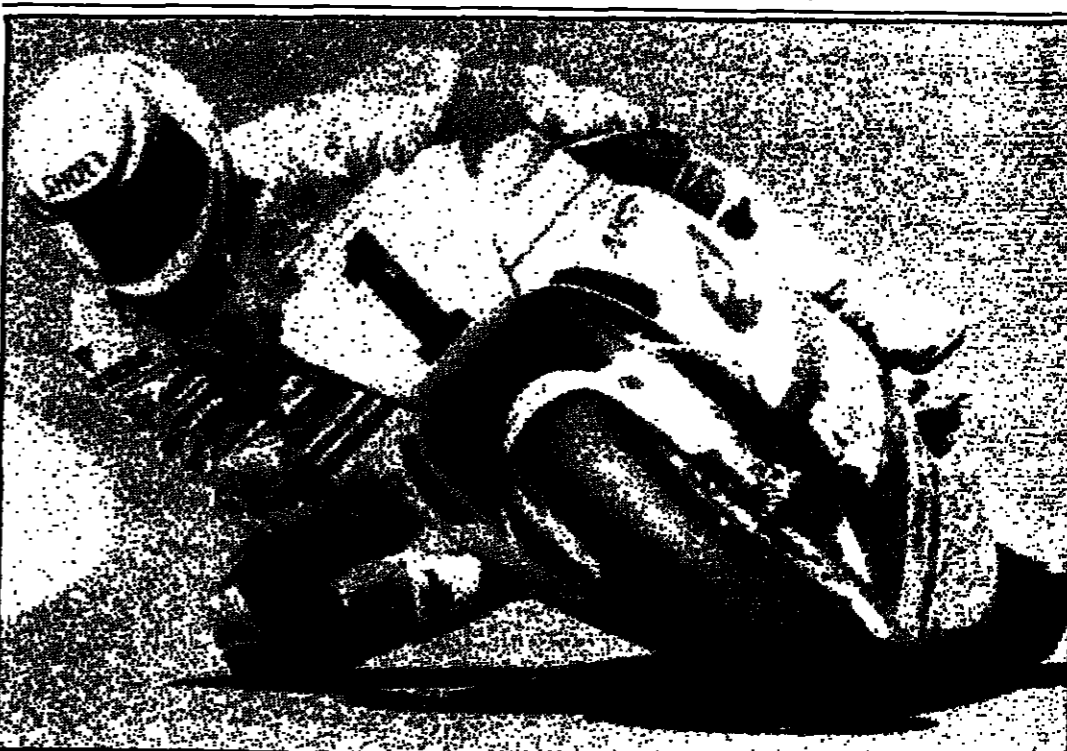
At Canterbury: Derbyshire beat Kent by 25 runs. Derbyshire 164 in 37.4 overs (J. Morris 41), Kent 138 in 38.3 overs (N. Taylor 56, M. Holding four for 18), Derbyshire 4 points.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Northamptonshire by three wickets. Northamptonshire 133 in 38.3 overs (D. Capel 48), Lancashire 136 for seven in 35 overs (G. Fowler 53 not out), Lancashire 4 points.

At Leicester: Nottinghamshire beat Leicestershire by 36 runs. Nottinghamshire 182 for nine in 38 overs innings closed (C. Broad 71), Leicestershire 146 in 36 overs (K. Saxelby six for 30), Notts 4 points.

At Taunton: Somerset beat Glamorgan by 81 runs. Somerset 249 for six innings closed (S. Cook 114, P. Coebuck 63), Glamorgan 168 for eight innings closed (V. Marks four for 27), Somerset 4 points.

At the Oval: Surrey beat Sussex by 24 runs. Surrey 225 for four innings closed (A. Stewart 100 not out, G. Clinton 47), Sussex 201 for eight innings closed (J. Gould 84 not out), Surrey 4 points.



## French Grand Prix

American rider Eddie Lawson on his way to victory in the French Motor Cycling Grand Prix on Sunday. Lawson finished this race, held in Le Mans, France, ahead of compatriots Kevin Schwantz and Wayne Rainey who were 2nd and 3rd respectively. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Rahal holds on to win Grand Prix

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey, July 17, (AP): Bobby Rahal held off Emerson Fittipaldi to win the rain-shortened Marlboro Grand Prix yesterday at the Meadowlands, ending the Brazilian's winning streak at three races.

The race began in a light rain and, after several downpours that soaked the 1.27-mile, (1.95-kilometre) six-turn temporary circuit, the race was stopped five laps short of the scheduled 150-lap, 185.55-mile (298.60-kilometre) distance.

Rahal, who earned his second Meadowlands victory, inherited the lead when Michael Andretti, who dominated most of the race, made a mistake, locking up his brakes on the wet track and hitting a concrete

barrier on lap 90. Andretti, who now has dropped out of three races this season while leading, had been sailing along with a lead ranging between 12 and 20 seconds over first his father, Mario, and later Rahal.

The elder Andretti got caught up in an accident, when Pancho Carter spun on lap 75. Andretti hit another car and broke his left rear suspension, knocking him out of the race.

Scott Pruett, in his first full season of Indy-car racing, finished third, two laps behind the leaders, followed by Rick Mears and, another lap back, Al Unser Jr.